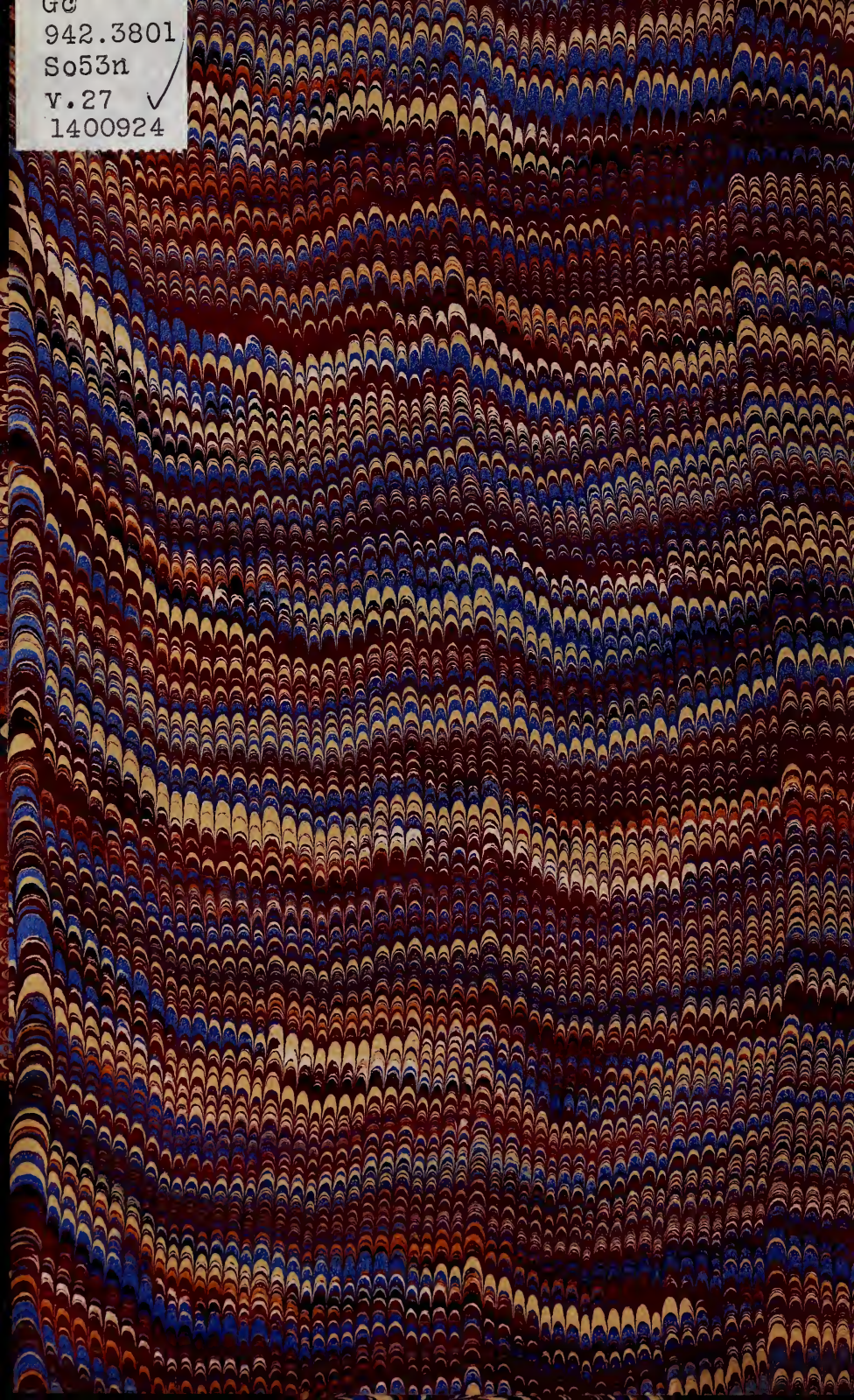


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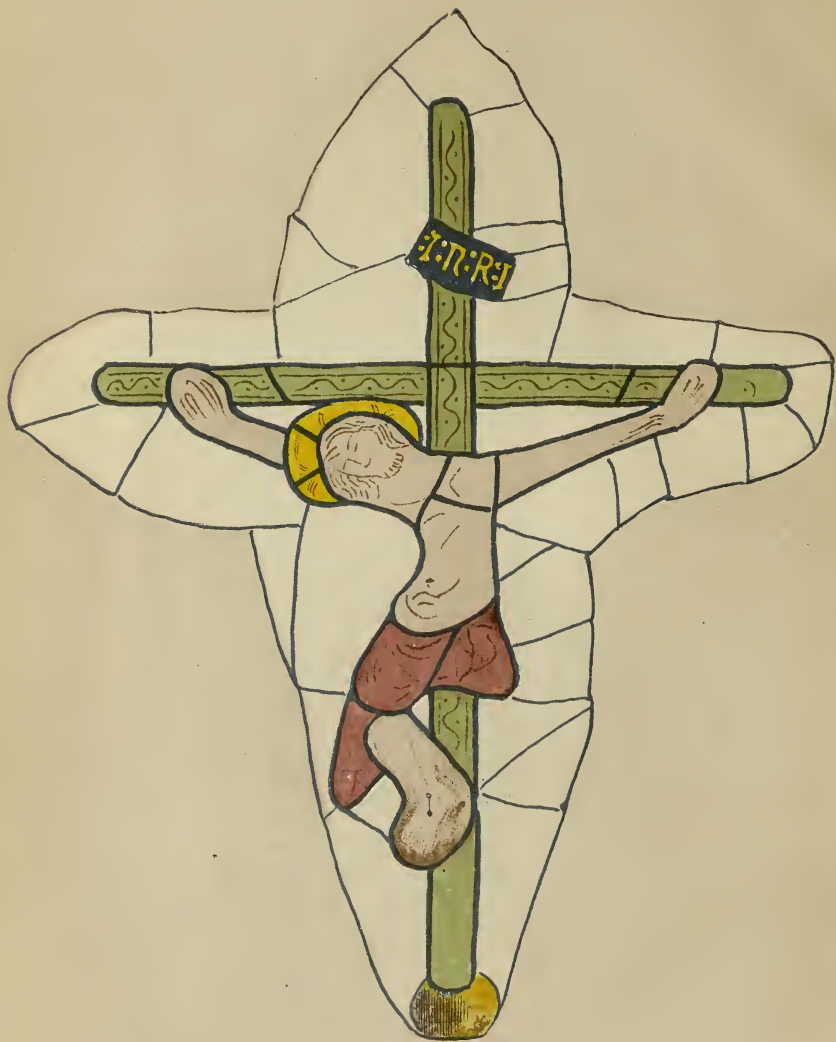
VOL. XXVII.



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Crucifixion. South window, south chapel of Chancel.

WICKENHAM CHURCH.

R. N. Paul. del. size $\frac{1}{4}$.

Soms^t. Archæological Soc^y. Vol. XXVII.

1882.

SOMERSETSHIRE
ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND
NATURAL HISTORY
SOCIETY'S
PROCEEDINGS, 1881.



VOL. XXVII.

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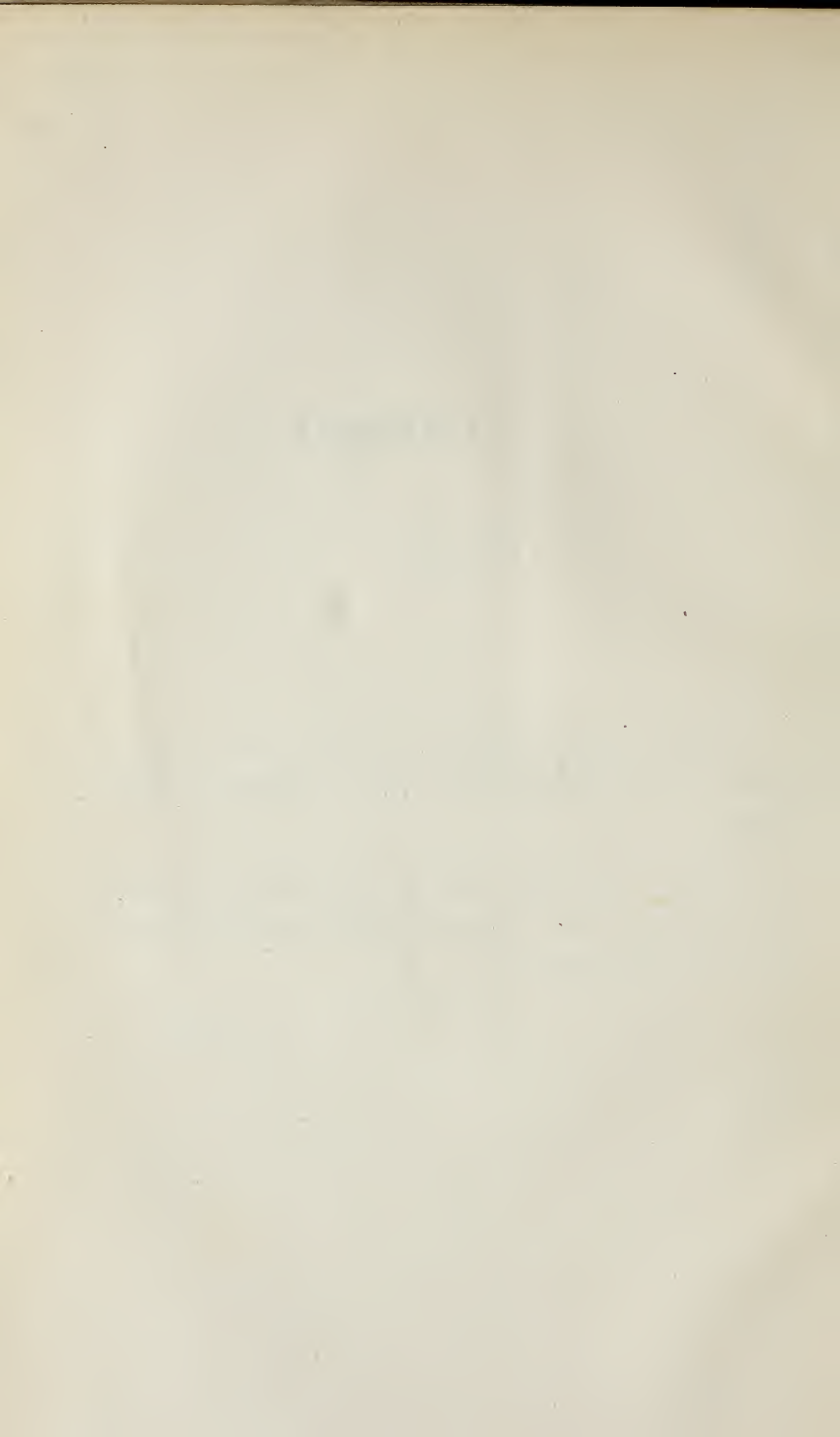
Preface.

—

The Editor regrets that the illustrations are so few in number, but he hopes that this may be different in future volumes.

The Society must thank Mr. R. W. Paul for his trouble taken, and for his skill displayed, in drawing the early glass which forms the frontispiece.

E. G.



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Proceedings
of the
Somersetshire Archæological and
Natural History Society,
during the year 1881.

THE Thirty-third Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Clevedon, on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th August. The general proceedings began in the Public Hall about eleven o'clock, when E. A. Freeman, Esq., D.C.L., LL.D., took the chair.

Dr. FREEMAN said he was there only for a short time, merely as a bird of passage here in this island, which was accounted to be outside the world, on the way from one continent to another. He was in Clevedon for a still shorter time to put an end to his official character as regarded this Society. There was an old maxim, *nemo est hæres viventis*, nobody is the heir of a living man. He did not think that maxim would always hold good. In Domesday, at least, from which there was no appeal, antecessor and successor were often found living in the same place. It was so now. He was still alive himself, and was the antecessor, and here was his successor, Mr. E. H. Elton. He had nothing more to do but to give up his chair to him. Mr. Elton was well known to all of them in Clevedon, and was well able to be their guide and leader.

Mr. EDMUND H. ELTON then took the chair, and after a

few words of thanks delivered his address, which, however, is put in its usual place, after the business matters. He then called upon

Mr. C. J. TURNER (Secretary) to read the

Report of the Council,

which was as follows:—

“The Council of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society have much pleasure in presenting to you their 33rd Annual Report.

“They are happy to say that financially your Society continues in a sound and improving condition.

“The Committee have at length thought it expedient to remove from the list of Members about thirty names, representing nominal subscribers who have failed for a long time to keep up their subscription. Each of these has been written to many times, and all have had ample opportunity given them of continuing Members of the Society. Although this step has lessened the apparent strength of your Society, it has in no degree prejudiced your financial position.

“Your Council report, with much regret, the loss by resignation of your Hon. Secretary, the Rev. W. Hunt, whose very able management for the last eight years has conducted so much to the well-being of your Society, and to whom they also owe so much for the skill and learning which he has brought to bear on the editorship of the annual volume of *Proceedings*.

“Your Council, after much consideration, have succeeded in securing the valuable services of Mr. Emanuel Green for the management of the Annual Meeting this year, and they have great pleasure in proposing to the Society that he should be invited to fill the vacant post of Honorary Secretary. Mr. Green has contributed many valuable papers to the Society's volumes, and is well known as a diligent student of the history and antiquities of Somerset.

“In accordance with a resolution passed at your last Annual Meeting, the accounts of the Society have been made up to the 31st December last. Your Council, therefore, have only half a year’s account to present. The balance on the 31st December amounted, on the general account, to £50 10s. 8d. in favour of the Society; and on the Castle Purchase Fund the balance against the Society had been reduced from £751 1s. 7d. to £675 16s. 7d. Since the closing of this account your Committee have received a bequest to the Castle Purchase Fund of £50, from the late Mrs. Sarah Payne, of Taunton, and a kind donation of £5 by J. Marshall, Esq., of Belmont. To the same gentleman they are also indebted for the very valuable donation of 32 Saxon coins, all struck at mints in this county.

“Your Council would also record the thanks they owe to Miss Atherstone, for kindly presenting to the Society—besides some valuable engravings of pictures by Martin—several books illustrative of local history, and written by her father, whilst residing within the precincts of Taunton Castle. To J. Albert Porch, Esq., of Glastonbury, your thanks are also due for an oil painting which now adorns the great Hall of the Castle. And your Council would report a valuable addition to the Library of about 100 volumes by a bequest of the late Rev. O. S. Harrison, of Thorne Falcon.

“The next volume of the Society’s *Proceedings* is now in the hands of Mr. Hammond, of Taunton, who has succeeded to the business formerly carried on by Mr. May. The publication of this volume has been necessarily delayed by the resignation of your Honorary Secretary; but his work in this particular has been well sustained by your able Curator, Mr. Bidgood, and the volume, it is hoped, will very soon be ready for distribution.

“Your Council recommend the formation of a *Bibliotheca Somersetensis*, a work which it is considered this county should no longer be without, and suggests that materials should be

collected for making a complete list of all books, tracts, or manuscripts treating of persons or objects connected with the county, or written by natives or inhabitants of the county.

The Rev. H. M. SCARTH said he had been connected with the Society from its commencement, and he was very much gratified to find that its affairs were in such a flourishing condition. He felt that the interest in the Society had been well sustained, and he hoped it might be increased and extended considerably. Other societies in other counties had sprung up since this one had been established, and there was some rivalry between them. This Society was the first, and they ought not to allow themselves to fall behind others. The Gloucestershire Society was extremely vigorous, and he thought that unless they in Somerset considerably increased in energy they might be distanced by it. That he would be sorry to see, because hitherto they had been the leading Society. The success of the Gloucestershire Society was to be attributed in some measure to the fact that it worked from three centres—Bristol, Gloucester, and Cheltenham,—at each of which there was a local committee, under the general supervision of the whole body. The Somerset Society having its head quarters at Taunton, left out a great deal that was found in Bath, and also in the neighbourhood of Wells. He would merely throw out the suggestion that if they had a centre established at Wells, another at Bath, as well as that at Taunton, they might add considerably to the success of the Society. He had great pleasure in moving the adoption of the report.

The Rev. H. H. WINWOOD, in seconding the adoption of the report, congratulated the Society on its prosperity. He approved of Mr. Scarth's suggestion, as tending to give the Society larger scope—a little new life; and he hoped that the endeavours of the Secretaries to obtain information would be supported by the Members.

The report was then unanimously adopted.

Mr. C. J. TURNER next read the financial reports, as follow:

Treasurers' Account.

The Treasurers in Account with the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society, from Aug. 6th to Dec. 31st, 1880.

DR.			CR.		
1880.	£	s d	1880.	£	s d
By Balance, Aug. 6	38	16 6	To Expenses attending Meetings, Travelling, &c.	11	12 3
„ Entrance Fees of Members	7	0 0	„ Stationery, Printing, &c.	8	3 9
„ Subscriptions ditto	58	11 0	„ Coal, Gas, Water	12	11 3
„ Excursion Tickets	21	5 0	„ Repairs to Cases, &c.	9	8 1
„ Museum Admission Fees... ..	9	19 5	„ Curator's Salary to Christmas, 1880	42	10 0
„ Sale of Volumes of Proceedings	1	0 0	„ Excavations at Wedmore	2	2 0
„ Transfer from the Castle Purchase Fund towards the purchase of the Serel collection of Papers, &c.	15	0 0	„ Insurance	7	6
			„ Rates	3	12 3
			„ Postage of vols. of Proceedings	5	0 6
			„ Postage, Carriage, &c.... ..	4	14 2
			„ Sundries	19	7
			„ Balance	50	10 8
	<u>£ 151</u>	<u>11 11</u>		<u>£ 151</u>	<u>11 11</u>

1881. Jan.
Balance £50 10 8

H. & H. J. BADCOCK, *Treasurers.*

March 7, 1881, Examined, compared with the vouchers, and found correct.

ALFRED MAYNARD,
EDWIN SLOPER.

Taunton Castle Purchase Fund.

Treasurers' Account from August 6th to December 31st, 1880.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
1880.	£	s d	1880.	£	s d
By Donations	5	0 0	To Balance, Aug. 6th	51	1 7
„ Proceeds of Fancy Ball, held at Taunton, Dec., 1880	52	1 6	„ Repairs to Buildings, &c.	2	18 2
„ Rents of premises	31	10 0	„ Insurance	17	6
„ Rent of Castle Hall	30	1 0	„ Rates	1	6 6
			„ Attendance at Castle Hall and sundry Expenses	1	12 10
			„ Gas	3	3 9
			„ Interest on Borrowed Money	18	8 9
			„ Transferred to the Arch. Society's Account, towards the purchase of the Serel collection of Somerset Papers, out of the £100 bequeathed by Sir W. C. Trevelyan, Bart.	15	0 0
			„ Balance	24	3 5
	<u>£ 118</u>	<u>12 6</u>		<u>£ 118</u>	<u>12 6</u>

1881.
Balance £24 3 5

1881, March 7.
Loan 700 0 0
Less Balance per contra 24 3 5
Total amount due to Stuckey's Banking Company £675 16 7

H. & H. J. BADCOCK, *Treasurers.*

March 7, 1881. Examined, compared with the vouchers, and found correct, } ALFRED MAYNARD.
EDWIN SLOPER.

Mr. JEROM MURCH, in proposing the adoption of the accounts, congratulated the Society on its financial condition. He was sorry to see that while one of the pockets of the

Society was pretty full, the other was quite empty. He hoped the attention of archæologists would be drawn to the condition of the Taunton Castle Fund, and that something would be done to put it in a better position. He had listened with great interest to the suggestion that had been made in regard to the increase of centres, and thought it a very good one. He was sure that if increased local action were resolved upon, they in Bath would render all possible assistance to promote the success of the Society.

Mr. JOHN BATTEN (High Sheriff of Dorset), in seconding the motion, said they might congratulate themselves upon the fact that the loan account on Taunton Castle, although it was not in a very flourishing state, was sinking down to a sum that they might hope to be able to manage. They were very much indebted to several parties for the assistance they had rendered with regard to this fund. He trusted they would have the support of all parties. The ladies might materially assist them by appearing in all their graces at the fancy dress ball.

The accounts were unanimously adopted.

The PRESIDENT (in the absence of Col. Bramwell) proposed the re-election of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, with the addition of Dr. Freeman, the retiring President.

Mr. BRAIKENRIDGE seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. ADAMS proposed the re-election of the Treasurers—Mr. H. Badcock and Mr. H. J. Badcock.

The Rev. Mr. WARREN seconded. Carried unanimously.

Dr. FREEMAN proposed the re-election of the Honorary Secretaries, with the addition of Mr. Emanuel Green, in the place of Mr. Hunt. In doing so he said he was sure they could not help weeping and wailing over the departure of Mr. Hunt, but he hoped that something might be done whereby they would retain his services in the future. It would be impossible to find a more energetic officer than he had been for many years. The Society had made a good choice in his suc-

cessor, as Mr. Green had been known as a hard worker in the antiquities of the county, especially with regard to the 17th century.

Mr. SHUM seconded the motion, remarking that he felt sure Mr. Green would discharge the duties to their entire satisfaction.

The Rev. H. H. WINWOOD, as must be the case with everybody, could not help regretting the loss of Mr. Hunt, and he wished they could in some way retain his services. If he would but take a trip to the Continent they would next year be happy to welcome him again with renewed health and strength. In speaking of Mr. Hunt's ability, he need not say they had got an admirable man in his place in the person of Mr. Green, who was full of energy, and the Society would get plenty of work out of him ; still he hoped that in some way or other they would retain Mr. Hunt's services.

Mr. BATTEN considered that the meeting should cordially express its thanks to Mr. Hunt for his great services. He therefore proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to him.

Bishop CLIFFORD seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation.

Mr. TURNER said he would take care that the wishes of the meeting should be conveyed to Mr. Hunt.

The election of the Secretaries was then agreed to.

Bishop CLIFFORD proposed the re-election of the Local Secretaries, with the addition of the Rev. W. Hunt, the Rev. J. Bennett, of South Cadbury, Mr. Arthur Dickinson, of Clevedon, the Rev. W. P. Williams, of Bishops Hull, and the Rev. H. G. Tomkins. He felt sure they would experience great advantage from the services of those gentlemen. The Local Secretaries were very useful, not only for any papers which they supplied, but also for the purpose of exciting interest in the affairs of the Society. This being one of the oldest societies, they had a disadvantage as compared with

Gloucestershire in one way, and that was that so much of the ground had been gone over before, whereas other societies were young, with new fields open to them. That was one reason why they should put fresh vigour into the Society, by having, if possible, additional centres.

The motion was seconded by Major C. E. DAVIS, who also spoke in support of the additional centres. He, as well as other Members, resided in Bath, and it would be to the advantage of the Society to have a centre there.

Dr. FREEMAN proposed the re-election of the Committee, observing that the more scattered about they were the better it would be. What Mr. Scarth had said was very much to the point, and he thought they ought to feel very much abashed to learn that Gloucestershire was so much ahead of them in the art of decentralization. Gloucestershire was comparatively little older than the 10th century, setting a lesson to Somerset, which never had a century. He expressed the hope that Wells would be one of the new centres, and remarked that nearly everything of importance had flown away from Wells. For aught he knew, even the Cathedral itself might take wings and fly away. At all events, Wells should be one of the chief centres of the Archæological Society.

Dr. HARDMAN seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. GREEN proposed the election of Mr. Bidgood, as Assistant Secretary and Curator.

Mr. SCARTH, having known how Mr. Bidgood had acted in former years and the great interest he took in the Society, had great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The proposition was carried *nem. con.*

Some discussion then took place regarding the place of meeting next year, and it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Council.

Twenty-two new Members having been elected, the proceedings of the general meeting terminated.

The PRESIDENT-elect in delivering his address said :—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

BEFORE opening the proceedings on this occasion, I wish to thank you for placing me in my present position as your President. It is now twenty-one years since this honorable Society held its annual meeting in this part of Somerset. Many of those present retain a grateful recollection of the pleasure, mingled with instruction, which they derived on that occasion from the enjoyable excursions taken, and the learned papers read. But there are those in this assembly who, if not actually reclining in their perambulators, or their then substitutes, were, like myself, too young to take an intelligent interest in the science of archæology. As a representative of this class of juveniles, I feel sure that I do not misrepresent their feelings when I say that we congratulate ourselves on being now about to enjoy the advantages formerly offered to our elders. Not being myself a savant in archæology, I shall be as brief as possible, for I take it to be the function of a President, under these circumstances, to do little more than open the proceedings, and then to make way for those who have kindly come prepared to impart their special knowledge to the Members of this Society and their friends. We shall, in the course of the next few days, have the leading places of interest explained by those who are able to do ample justice to their respective subjects; but it may afford some pleasure to those present to have put before them a few facts and curious incidents associated with Clevedon and its vicinity.

To begin, the name Clevedon is supposed to owe its derivation to the Celtic word Dun, meaning a high stronghold, and Cleve, a split ravine. Various ancient remains which have been discovered from time to time, prove this part of the country to have been the habitation of man at a very early date. Of this we have some valuable proofs in the sketches taken in 1789, exhibited in the Museum to-day by Mr. J. W.

Braikenridge, of hut circles and earth works then existing about Clevedon. They have now disappeared.

There is not much in Clevedon itself of archæological interest, with the exception of the old Church, the Court, Cadbury Camp, and the Roman road leading from thence to the Pill; but let us take a glance at the surrounding country, such as we might get from the top of Dial Hill.

Those who live in Clevedon are familiar with the two islands which strike the eye on looking down the Channel, the Holmes. Of these, the Steep Holme (*Steopan Reore*), or reed island of Saxon times, is the most important. It is the point of division between the counties of Gloucester and Somerset. Here the British historian, Gildas, found sanctuary during the wars between the Picts, Scots, and Saxons. Here he wrote his work, *De Encidio Britanniae*. Here he remained till driven out by the pirates who infested the island, when he retired to Glastonbury Abbey.

Leland refers to Gildas thus: "He preached every Sunday in a church by the sea shore, in the time of King Trijunus, an innumerable multitude hearing him; he always wished to be a faithful subject to King Arthur. His brother, however, rebelled against the king, unwilling to endure a master. Hueil, the eldest, was a perpetual warrior and most famous soldier, who obeyed no king, not even Arthur himself. The terms of a year being ended, and his scholars returning from study, the Abbot of St. Cadoc and the excellent Gildas, went to two islands, Romuth and Echin. Cadoc entered the one nearest Wales, that is, the Flat Holme, and Gildas the other nearest to England, the Steep Holme."

So much for Leland's account of Gildas and his connection with the "Reed Islands." Passing down the pathway of time, we come to the year 1067, when Githa, mother of Harold, patriot and king, retired thither, when the sun had set on their hopes of Saxon freedom. On yonder rugged shore it was that the Danes took refuge after their defeat near Watchet.

Here, in more peaceful times, the pirate haunt became the home of religion, when Maurice, third Earl of Berkeley, founded a priory.

Notwithstanding the name of Reed Island, applied in Saxon times, the names Steep Holme and Flat Holme would seem to have a clearer derivation for us. Holme is a name given to land lying at the mouth of a river—a river island; and here we have two such islands, simply distinguished by their special peculiarities—steep one, the other flat.

Before passing on I must mention the Dole Moors, in Congresbury, which are portions of land, occupied till about 60 years ago, in a remarkable manner. Its customs are fully told in Collinson, but I wish to record that a precisely similar custom existed until lately in the parish of Bampton in Oxfordshire. The marks by which the land was distributed there were in the possession of the late Mr. Joshua Williams, a distinguished property lawyer, of London. These customs are certainly survivals of the village communities, which Sir Henry Mayne has shown to lead us back to the most ancient form of property, and which still exist unchanged in Russia and in our Indian Empire.

Hard by Congresbury stands the town of Yatton, whose church we shall view this afternoon. In the year 1828 a very curious discovery was made in the parish. About a mile from the church, in an enclosure called Wemberham, a stone coffin, very thick, and cut out of a single block, was unearthed at about a foot from the surface; it contained the skeleton of a man, and portions of a leaden shell. The coffin lay north and south, thus denoting its antiquity and the pre-Christian date of the burial. But the most mysterious circumstance connected with this grave is that it was made on such a lonely spot, then far removed from the habitations of men, and where the sea covered the land in every direction at high tide.

And now I have nearly done, and it only remains for me to wind up as best I may. I am well aware that my address has

been fragmentary, but I have had some difficulty in avoiding the ground about to be opened up by the learned archæologists present, and would urge this circumstance as my excuse. I cannot do better than conclude with the wish that we may all have a very pleasant time, and that the weather may be favourable for our excursions.

Clevedon Court.

The Members of the Society then proceeded to Clevedon Court, the residence of Sir Arthur Elton, where they were hospitably entertained at luncheon in the great hall. After the repast,

Dr. FREEMAN returned the thanks of the Society for the hospitality accorded, and remarked, in proposing the healths of Sir Arthur and Lady Elton, that any words of his would be far too feeble to express his respect for Sir Arthur, whom he had known for many years and had always found in all respects worthy of being the owner of that noble old house.

Sir ARTHUR ELTON in response, expressed the great pleasure it gave himself and Lady Elton to entertain the members of the Society. He remembered that the last time when he entertained a large party of his friends and neighbours in that hall, was on the occasion of the starting of the volunteer artillery in that place, and it seemed to him that there was something analogous between the promotion of the volunteer movement and the promotion of Archæology; for, while the volunteers had to make themselves efficient in order to protect their country and their homes, archæologists went forth to protect, as far as they could, the ancient monuments their country contained.

Sir ARTHUR ELTON then read a paper on "Clevedon Court," which is printed in Part II.

Getting to the railway, not hurriedly, the party proceeded to the Yatton station, whence a walk brought them to the parish church.

Mr. B. EDMUND FERREY, F.R.I.B.A., speaking outside, in pointing out its architectural features, said it was a fine specimen of a cruciform Decorated church, which had been added to and altered in later times. There seemed little doubt that the nave at some period had been cased. This had been done in other instances; William of Wykeham having cased the Norman nave at Winchester. The clerestory had been added to the Decorated church. They would see, inside, a window which was formerly external, on the west side of the tower. The tower, up to the under part of the bell-chamber, was of the Decorated period, and in the south transept there was another instance of the remains of the Decorated church. This window had been shortened in more recent times. The west front was one of the finest specimens of any church in this county, except, perhaps, Crewkerne, with its four turrets and magnificent tower. He would draw attention to the way in which a kind of flying-buttress arrangement was made to the side of the south porch outer archway; a feature which was not very common. To speak of the ground-plan, he might say that there had been several additions. The chantry on the north side of the chancel was a much later addition. The chancel seemed to be a portion of the church built in early Perpendicular times, and not rebuilt or altered, and that was out of character and of an anterior period to the rest. In the ornamentation of the church there had been a profuse use of the four-leaved flower, which might be seen both outside and inside. With regard to the spire, he was informed by Prebendary Barnard that it was quite a moot-point whether it was ever completed or not. There was a very beautiful north doorway without a porch, of an unusual character, as it was very uncommon to find one in such a position treated in such an ornamental way. Speaking inside the church, Mr. Ferrey said the nave must always strike them as certainly one of the finest in Somerset, being almost cathedral-like in effect. Before the excellent restoration effected in 1871, by Mr. Street, there was a lath and plaster ceiling.

The roof of the nave was one of those very characteristic of Somerset, being something between a panelled ceiling and an open roof. The peculiar feature in the aisles was the design of the roofs, the composition being brought down by ornamental wall panelling on to the arches. At Congresbury there was the same feature, although in that church the peculiarity was not in the aisle, but in the nave, roofs. The clerestory was of quite a Somerset or southern type. Proceeding to the north transept, Mr. Ferrey noticed two recessed wall arches of late Decorated period, but he had no doubt the effigies now in them were not *in situ*, but had been removed from elsewhere. He then noticed the beautiful altar tomb or high tomb, as it was formerly called, of Judge Newton, pointing out his legal costume and bag on his side.

Mr. GREEN remarked that the dress of the lady was especially good. The head-dress was of the smaller horned fashion, which developed into the higher, such as had come down to us as worn until lately in Normandy. They were to be seen there now, but not generally. This marked the date, the latter half of the fifteenth century. It was early in this century that we first read of an article of dress called a pair of bodies, and with it came more decided evidences of lacing, as clearly seen in this effigy. The jewellery was profuse, after the fashion of the time. The effigies in the recesses would be early thirteenth century; the first quarter after 1200. The man, a civilian, has flowing curls and beard, and a robe which originally would be rich. The lady wears a gown, not as became necessary with lacing, a fashioned dress, and also the wimple round the chin, which marks the date. This was worn by all, but of different colours and material, according to rank; white being worn by nuns, who still retain it. The tomb westward was then noticed, Mr. Green pointing out that the head of the knight rested on a garb or wheat-sheaf, the Newton crest. He wears no sword-belt, but the sword, half-drawn, lies quite detached by his right side, implying that he died defeated.

The armour has the small flaps over the groin or thigh, called *tuiles*, which would mark the date as after 1470, when, or just before that, this fashion came in. The lady has the horned dress of this time, before it became enlarged. Her fingers appear tied.

Mr. FERREY pointed out the collar of SS., or *Sanctus Spiritus*, worn by the man.

Mr. GREEN suggested it was more properly the collar of esses, the SS. forming the pattern being taken from the word *Souveraine*, which was the motto or word round the jewel attached. The collar was simply the evidence of knighthood; this being formerly not so much a personal distinction as implying a military duty severely due to the king, as chief of all knights and sovereign lord *in capite*.

Time had now passed too quickly, and on emerging from the church rain threatened, making the prospect of the walk back to the station not quite pleasant. Some Members not to be hurried started homeward, whilst the young and more brisk proceeded to make a hasty examination of the old Rectory House.

Dr. HARDMAN said it was believed to have been built about 1440, and was a fine example of a mediæval rectory. It was also one of the first examples of lay impropriation, having passed into lay hands in the time of Henry VIII, but it now belonged to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. There was originally another wing, and there was still a fine hall within.

Mr. GREEN said that in the British Museum (Additional Charters, 7667-8-9-70-71) there are some Court Rolls of the Manor of Yatton for the years 1341, 1347, 1350, 1351, 1364 and 1461 and 62.

A brisk walk brought the party again to the station, where, at the solicitation of those who had arrived first, the station master, considering the greatest happiness of the greatest number had kindly detained the train. Clevedon being reached those who knew the distance took carriages, those who did not

know it, walked to the old church, which was described by Mr. B. E. FERREY, as having a peculiar—almost unique, he believed—cruciform west window to the nave. The nave and transepts were between the Early English and the Decorated periods. The arcade to south side of the nave was peculiar; there were no capitals, but discontinuous arches, the way in which these stop on the piers being very picturesque with their curious arrangement of corbelling. He considered the arcade a very remarkable one altogether, and that it was of the Early Decorated period. At Lostwithiel there was something of the same kind, and Tickenham was another plainer example. The south aisle was of the flowing Decorated period. There was a good Perpendicular ceiling to the porch. The font was very plain, and there was little from which to judge its date, but he would take it to be of the Decorated period. The poppy-head bench-ends were late Perpendicular, about 1500. The four arches to the central tower were very interesting, the west and south arches being of the Early Decorated period, the north arch was semi-transition Norman, rather later than the east arch, which latter was rather remarkable among transition Norman examples. In the south nave aisle there were curious corbels, with one head to two animals, which were of the same date as the windows of the aisle. The south transept roof was of the characteristic Somerset type, probably an accurate restoration of the mediæval roof, with some remarkable corbels. The chancel, evidently Norman, was restored by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners about twenty years since. As they would observe, the steps up to the rood-loft still remained. There was a tomb on the north side, the date of which was about 1592. The church had been a Norman cruciform building, and the lower part of the tower still remained, the Norman portion being that below the corbel table which ran round the outside of the tower. With reference to the miniature monumental effigy in the nave, he should think that it was of the Jacobean period.

Mr. GREEN suggested that it was later as it had the lay down collar of the time of Charles, not the ruff of the time of either James or Elizabeth. Say of the time of Sir Baldwin Wake, the first baronet.

Mr. GREEN pointed out the incised slab in the south transept, remarking that such early slabs were peculiar to this district. A description of them was about to be published by Mr. R. W. Paul, a Member of the Society. Some of the inscription around this one could be made out, as at the head, where it reads "Hic jacet Sir Thomas dominus de Clevedon." The armour was clearly all plate, and judging by the close-fitting head-piece, he would say it was of the last quarter of the 14th century. It would be noticed that the inscription did not say that it commemorated a Sir Thomas Clevedon, but a Sir Thomas, lord of Clevedon, and he would suggest that this was Sir Thomas Hogshaw, who married the daughter of the last De Clevedon. This would be seen better in

The Descent of the Manor of Clevedon.

In the Gheld Inquest of 1084, taken before Domesday, as also in Domesday book of 1086, Clevedon is returned as having 1029 acres more than at present, and there were attached to the manor 3240 acres of pasture. It was found to be held by one Johannes Danus, but was transferred to Mathew de Moreton, as tenant of the king *in capite*, the under tenant being one Heldebertus. There were within it seven wild or untamed mares.¹

After this there is a missing link. Whether De Moreton or his immediate descendants took the name De Clevedon, or when the name was first assumed, must be left to conjecture. About 1162, in the time of Henry II, *filius Imperatricis*, William de Clevedon is returned in a list of scutages due to the king, as holding two knight's fees in Somerset of Henry Lupellus (Lovell).² In the *Exchequer Red Book—Transcript*, vol. iii.

(1). *The Gheld Inquest of Somerset*, by R. W. Eyton.

(2). *Black Book of the Exchequer; Queen's Remembrancer; Miscellaneous*; vol. xii. p. 21.

p. 511, he is also returned as holding the same. In a list of oblations due to the king in 1198, Mathew de Clevedon occurs as owing 100s. for the right to a knight's fee in Ken, one in Hiwis, and one in Penna, *versus* Richard de Ken;³ and in 1211 he is again returned as holding the same,⁴ "as will appear on the Roll of 10th Richard I." Mathew seems to have got into trouble, as in 1215, the year of Magna Charta, all his lands were given to Robert de Baiocis.⁵ This name written generally Baiocensis, for Bayeux—is the origin of, and is usually translated Bacon, but as Baiocis it seems to have become Bayouse or Bayhouse. By 1217, 1st Henry III, the lands were restored to Mathew, as in that year he did homage for them.⁶ In this same year he was succeeded by Roger, to whom the Sheriff was ordered to write for an account of all lands *in Balliva suâ*.⁷ In 1225-26 Mathew de Clevedon is found holding offices in Somerset;⁸ his successor being Raymond, who is mentioned in 1275.

During the long absence of Henry III from England, his tenants endeavoured to avoid their services due to him as lord *in capite*, and also claimed various rights and privileges which did not belong to them; hence on the king's death, his son, Edward I, on returning to England found his revenues much diminished. A Commission was issued in 1275, for every county, to enquire in every hundred by what warrant or title the various lands were held or privileges claimed. In the report made, Raymond de Clevedon was returned as claiming wreckage, but by what warrant the jury knew not. He was also reported as having built a wall which obstructed the king's highway.⁹ In 1294, when the king of France announced his intention of taking all the English possessions in France, Edward ordered his tenants to appear at Portsmouth on the

(3). *Pipe Roll*, 10th Richard I.

(4). *Pipe Roll*, 12th John, roll 7.

(5). *Close Rolls*, 17th John.

(6). *Close Rolls*, p. 303 b.

(7). *Close Rolls*, p. 300 b.

(8). *Close Rolls*.

(9). *Hundred Rolls*, 4th Edw. I, pp. 130, 131.

1st September, ready for war, and amongst those named was Raymond de Clevedon.¹⁰ Raymond was succeeded by John, who on a proclamation in 1296, 25th Edward I, for all knights to meet the king properly equipped to go beyond sea, appears in the list for Somerset.¹¹ He perhaps never returned, and there now appears Elizabeth de Clevedon amongst the women having £20 a year in lands and rents held *in capite*. Three years later, in 1299, on the occasion of another muster for service in the north of England, there again appears John, who is described as the son of John.¹² In 1307, 1st Edward II, William de Clyvedon had succeeded, and there occurs with him a curious instance of feudal custom and watchfulness; for, having taken to wife, without royal license, a widow, whose dower would be held of the king, he was fined 20s. for his breach of duty.¹³ William was succeeded by Mathew, who in 1313, 6th Edw. II, on the occasion of another muster for foreign service went abroad with the king. In 1324, when Edward II hanged at Bristol two gentlemen whom he called enemies and rebels, their friends and those who sided with them announced that a miracle had been done around the corpses. As this could not then be allowed to pass uncontradicted, John de Clyvedon was one, with others, appointed to enquire into the truth of the report.¹⁴

By 20th Edward III, John had disappeared, and was succeeded by Edmund his son, who was then returned as holding the fee formerly held by John, value 40s.¹⁵ The next year, 1347, he was appointed to arm men in Somerset during the king's absence abroad. There now appear other De Clevedons prominent, as in 1359, 33rd Edward III, when with Edmund, others were appointed to array men and raise archers¹⁶ in

(10). *Fœdera*. (11). *Harleian MSS.*, No. 1192, No. 7.

(12). *Harl. MSS.*, No. 1192, No. 5.

(13). *Excerpta Rotulis Finium*, Mem. 6.

(14). *Fœdera*.

(15). *Exchequer ; Queen's Remembrancer ; Misc. Books*, vol. ii. p. 254.

(16). *Fœdera*.

Somerset. Edmund died in 1375, and left an only daughter, Emeline, and with her the Clevedon holding ends.¹⁷ She married Sir Thomas Hogshaw, of Milstede, in Kent, who dying, left a son, Edmund, and two daughters, Johanna and Margaret. Edmund Hogshaw died childless, in 1389, and so the Hogshaw holding ended, and the property passed in equal shares to the sisters; Johanna, who was married to Thomas Lovell, and Margaret, who married John Bluet.¹⁸ In 1389, 13th Richard II, there was a partition effected as between Johanna and Margaret, of the lands of Edmund Hogshaw and the manors of Edmund de Clevedon, when the manor of Clevedon was allotted to Margaret and her husband, John Bluett.¹⁹ Johanna Lovell died in 1409, leaving a son, Thomas. Margaret died childless, 8th June, 1st Henry IV, when Thomas Lovell, her nephew, a minor, was declared her heir; the jury also declared that the said Thomas Lovell was heir of the manor of Clevedon, as the "son of Johanna the sister of Margaret."²⁰ Thomas Lovell appears to have parted with his property by deed of gift, and no record of his death is found. He left an only daughter, Agnes, who carried the property by her marriage to Thomas Wake. In 1448, 27th Henry VI, the king confirmed to Thomas Wake and Agnes, his wife, heirs of William de Clyfden, free warren in their lands of Clifton, as granted originally to the said William by Henry II.²¹ In 1451, Thomas and Agnes are again found dealing with the lands late of Edmund de Clevedon.²² Thomas Wake died in 1459, when it was found that he held his lands with Agnes his wife, "by the gift" of Thomas Lovell, and that his son Thomas was his heir.²³ This Thomas died in 1476, in Lincolnshire, having

(17). *Inquisitions Post Mortem*, 50th Edward III, No. 14.

(18). *Inq. P.M.*, 12th Richard II, No. 25.

(19). *Close Rolls*, 13th Richard II, part 1.

(20). *Inq. P.M.*, 11th Henry IV, No. 24.

(21). *Patent Rolls*, 27th Henry VI, part 1, Mem. 19.

(22). *Close Rolls*, 29th Henry VI, part 1, Mem. 30 *dorso*.

(23). *Inq. P.M.*, 38th, 39th Henry VI, No. 43.

apparently followed the example of Thomas Lovell, as it was found that Roger Wake was the feoffee of the said Thomas, and seised of all his lands, and that said Roger was his son and heir.²⁴ This Roger got into trouble, being on the losing side at the battle of Bosworth Field, the final contest in the war of the Roses, 1485. The victor, taking the crown as Henry VII, by Act of Parliament, in his first year, proclaimed that—"not oblivious, nor puttinge out of hys godly mynd the unnaturall, mischievous and grete treasons against God and man, committed and done by Richard, Duke of Gloucester, calling himself by usurpation King of England, the which, with several others, had assembled with banners spread, mightily armed and defenced with gunnes, bowes, arrowes, speres, gleves, axes, and all other necessities to gef and cause mightie battaile—he decreed that the said parties, including William Catesby and Roger Wake, should stand convict and attaint of High Treason, disabled and forejugged of all honors and estates in England, Wales, or Caleysh." The right of the wives to their dower was excepted.

Clevedon thus passed to the king, and was then granted, one half to Humfrey Stanley, Knight, or his heirs male, or to John Waller the younger, and his heirs male, with the fees, advowson of the church, chapel, prebend, chantry, or other ecclesiastical benefice to the same belonging, rendering therefor a red rose at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist.²⁵ A moiety of the other half was granted to John Parker, Knight, and his heirs male; the residue to John Crokker and to John Dudley, "Squyers of the Body."²⁶ After waiting quietly for about three years, Roger ventured to send in his petition, and as "a true and faithfull subgette in humble wise beseeched the King his Soveraygne Lord," that

(24). *Inq. P.M.*, 16th Edward IV, No. 45.

(25). *Memoranda Rolls, Queen's Remembrancer*, 4th Henry VII, *Communia*, Mem. 3 (63).

(26). *Patent Rolls*, 1st Henry VII.

the attainder might be reversed.²⁷ To this the king answered—"Soit fait comme il est désiré," and consequently Roger once more got possession, but minus the rents and dues accrued during the forfeiture. For some purpose, not at first clear, in 17th Henry VII, Michaelmas term, George Catesby, John Catesby, and Richard Wake, with others, brought an action against Roger Wake, to recover possession of three parts of the manor of Clevedon. According to a custom of the time this was a feigned suit, and was for the purpose generally of resettlement. Roger, as usual, called a witness, perhaps nonexistent or simply an underling in the court in which the trial took place, to vouch for his being the lawful possessor, but this witness would not appear, or as in this case, as the formal document says—he, *in contemptu curiæ recessit et defaultum facit*.²⁸ The Court would then decree that the property was vested in the Catesbys and Richard Wake, as we should now say in trust. Roger died 19th Henry VII, 1504, when it was found by inquisition 20th Henry VII, that he had no land or tenements, but that George and John Catesby, Richard Wake, and others, held three parts of the manor of Clyffuedon by agreement made in the life of Roger. By his will Roger declared that his wife Elizabeth (Catesby) should hold Clevedon for her life, and that then, with the *scitum et mansum*, it should go to Richard, his son. To Margaret Garnard, his daughter, he bequeathed all his lands called Hoggishaws, in Milsted in Kent, for her life.²⁹ He also declared that John, his son, who already had the one-fourth of Clevedon, should beside it take all the manor of Milton Clyffuedon.³⁰ John died, 1541, seised of 300 acres and belongings in Clevedon, and Dorothea, æt 21 and more, his daughter, was declared his heir.³¹ Richard

(27). *Rot. Parliament*, vol. vi. p. 393.

(28). *De Banco Rolls*, Michaelmas, 17th Henry VII, No. 24.

(29). *Testamenta Vetusta*, p. 463, by Sir N. H. Nicolas.

(30). *Exchequer Inq. P.M.*, W. Byssesley, Escheator, 20th Henry VII, No. 11.

(31). *Inq. P.M.*, 33rd Henry VIII, No. 163.

succeeded to Clevedon, and did homage for three-fourths of the manor in 37th Henry VIII;³² and dying in 1st Elizabeth, the various settlements are mentioned in his inquisition, as also that he held under the honour of Gloucester; and John, his son, was declared his heir.³³ John succeeding, he, in 2nd and 3rd Philip and Mary, 1556, bought of Dorothea and her husband, John Wurley or Wyrley, their fourth part of the manor, for which he paid them forty pounds sterling.³⁴ This was the first time that any part of the manor had been sold. All sales of land were obliged to be proclaimed in the market or some public place, and on the back of this document appear the number of times, with the dates, that this sale was so announced. John died 15th Elizabeth, 1573-4, now possessed of the whole manor,³⁵ and was succeeded by his son John, then aged 30 years. This John married Margaret Goodwyn, who died 28th Elizabeth, and with whom he got the manor of Portbury Priors.³⁶ He died 23rd January, 19th James I, and was possessed of Clevedon, *alias* Clevedowne, with other lands in Tickenham, Kenn, Walton, Nailsey, and Wracksall. By arrangement made 43rd Elizabeth, Clevedon was settled on Baldwin, his son and heir, who, on the death of his father was aged 40 years and more,³⁷ and held of the honour of Gloucester by military service. Baldwin was created a baronet, 5th December, 19th James I, 1621, just before his father's death. He married Elizabeth Digby, on whom Clevedon was settled for life by the above arrangement, a daughter of Sir George Digby of Coleshill, Warwickshire, and sister of John Digby, first Baron Digby and Earl of Bristol.³⁸ Sir Baldwin, "Knt. and Bart.," died early in 1628 (new style),

(32). *Memoranda Rolls, Q.R.*, Mem. 3.

(33). *Inq. P.M.*, 1st Elizabeth, No. 33.

(34). *Feet of Fines*, Somerset, Hilary, 2, 3, *P. and M.*, No. 47.

(35). *Inq. P.M.*, 15th Elizabeth, No. 5.

(36). *Chancery Inq. P.M.*, 2nd Charles I, part 3, No. 24.

(37). *Chancery Inq. P.M.*, 2nd Charles I, part 1, No. 16.

(38). Hutchins' *Dorset*, vol. iv. p. 133.

leaving issue John (by whom he was succeeded), George and Baldwin, Abigail and Elizabeth.³⁹

Sir John, with the concurrence of Lady Elizabeth, sold Clevedon and Portbury on the 10th August, 1630. The deed is between Elizabeth Wake, of Clevedon, widow; Sir John Wake, of Sawsey Forest, Northampton; and Philip Digby, of London, Esq., of the first part: John, Earl of Bristol, of the second part: Anthony Low and Richard King, of the Inner Temple; Walsingham Greisley and Thomas Harris, of Sherborne, of the third part: and Robert Stickland and Hugh Hodges of the fourth part. In accordance with the usual puzzling manner of conveyance, Elizabeth and John Wake agreed, for the sum of £17,000 by the Earl, and the sum of 10s. by Robert Stickland and Hugh Hodges, well and truly satisfied and paid, to sell to the two last named the manors of Portbury and Clevedon, with all rights, etc., and before Michaelmas next ensuing to "vouch to warranty, and after imparlance to depart in contempt of Court, that judgment may thereupon be had and given; the said Walsingham Greisley and Thomas Harris then to hold the manors."⁴⁰ At Michaelmas, accordingly, there was the usual action for recovery, and the transaction was completed with the usual final concord. Four proclamations of the purchase are recorded; the first on the 29th November, 1630; 29th January, 1631; 13th May, and 17th June.⁴¹ The fine for license to sell, paid to the Crown in silver, was six pounds.⁴² The result of all this was that the property passed to John, Earl of Bristol, now the owner of Sherborne, formerly the beloved seat of Sir Walter Raleigh.

Lord Bristol was sent twice to Spain, to treat for a marriage

(39). *Royalist Composition Papers*, 1st Series, vol. lxvii. fol. 67.

(40). *Close Rolls*, 6th Charles I, part 28, No. 27.

(41). *Recoveries Index*, fol. 384; *Recovery Roll*, 6th Charles I, Roll 175; *Feet of Fines*, 6th Charles I, Somerset, No. 41.

(42). *King's Silver Book*, Michaelmas, 1630, fol. 101.

of the Infanta with Prince Charles; paying his own expenses in 1617 as the price of Sherborne.⁴³ By these embassies he gained his earldom and many favours; an episode commemorated in Bristol by the "Procession of the Don," after the annual dinner, in November, of the Antient Society of St. Stephen's Ringers.

It has been always stated that Clevedon was sold by Sir John Wake on account of his losses during the Civil War, but it is clearly seen now that this was not so; and it may rather be suggested that his connection with the great Earl ran him to an expensive life, and at least did somewhat to help him to poverty. Besides this sale of the Somerset property, in 1637 he is found giving a bond for £600, and for which he was sued, and judgement given against him in 1642.⁴⁴ In 1639, he, with others, was bail for the sum of £2,600, and this becoming forfeited, an action was brought and judgment given against him in 1641 for that amount, with five pounds costs. In 1639 he mortgaged messuages and farms for £1,000, and in 1641 he borrowed £190, for which he became bound by his "Statute Staple" for the sum of £300. Then came the Civil War of 1642, when he took the Royalist side, and surrendered under Lord Hopton at Truro, in 1645. With a pass he marched away, but was met when in Hampshire by some "unruly and strong parties," who despoiled his troopers and took from him £2,000. He appealed to Sir Thomas Fairfax, who ordered the Hants Committee to enquire into the affair, which they did, but "their order took little effect." In 1646 Sir John thought it advisable to take the Covenant, before the minister of "John Zacharies," in London, but, his property being sequestrated, this did not relieve him. The Commissioners for compounding fixed his fine at a moiety of his estate; but in the composition there is no Somerset property. Sir John petitioned against this decision in 1654, and towards getting the value reduced

(43). *State Papers*, vol. xc. p. 131.

(44). *Roy. Comp. Pap.*, 2nd series, vol. xxvii. fol. 707.

set out the debt of £2,600 and the other mortgages above-mentioned, as still in force against him and "no part thereof satisfied," he being "closely restrained" in the upper Bench, where "he had been a long time a prisoner."⁴⁵ No deduction being made, he again petitioned, setting out that he had already totally lost his personal estate, and that, having a wife and six children, there "remained not to him or his bed to lie upon." The last paper relating to him bears a memorandum, "Fine at a moiety £1,130—paid nothing."⁴⁶ Sir John died in 1661, and his will was proved 28th January, 1662.

During the Civil War, Lord Digby, too, sided with the king, and his property was consequently sequestrated, and afterwards sold, without privilege of composition. As to a part of it, on the 13th November, 1650, Colonel Owen Rowe, of London, petitioned the sequestrators, that his late wife had, for above 30 years past, a small tenement with several parcels of ground in Clevedon, by virtue of a lease granted by Lady Elizabeth Wake, and prayed to have this continued. To this it was ordered that the value be "signified," the lands not to be disposed of until further order. The survey was returned, 26th February, 1651, of these lands in Clivedale, and they were offered to Colonel Rowe at 50s. a year for seven years, he to bear the charge of "the wall," the State paying all taxes.⁴⁷ Rowe refused it, and, considering that he had well served his party he might have been better treated. He was a Commissioner for Relief upon Articles of War, and sat 17th February, 1653, to consider the claim of Sir John Wake, after the Truro surrender.⁴⁸ His name is signed to the death warrant of Charles I, and he appears named in the Act, 12th Charles II, 1660,

(45). *Roy. Comp. Pap.*, 1st series, vol. lxvii, fols. 43, 45, 61, 67, 68, 71, 75.

(46). *Roy. Comp. Pap.*, 2nd series, vol. xxvii. fols. 721, 728.

(47). *Roy. Comp. Pap.*, vol. liv. fols. 371, 373.

(48). *Roy. Comp. Pap.*, 1st series, vol. lxvii. fol. 55.

cap. 30, as one of the "wicked and active instruments" in compassing the death of the late king. On the 12th November, 1650, came in the petition of Anne (Russell), wife of George, Lord Digby, heir-apparent of John, Earl of Bristol, wherein she states that the capital messuage of the manor of Clevedon with as much land as should be of the yearly value of £1,200, was charged, 23rd June, 1632, with £800 per annum as a settlement on her marriage, and praying that it may be continued for her support.⁴⁹ A special Act of the Parliament had been passed to secure such provision for widows and children, but no endorsement or memorandum tells what was done in this case.

On the 23rd March, 1651, the trustees for the sale of estates forfeited to the commonwealth for treason, sold Clevedon to Carew Raleigh, his heirs and assigns for ever, "in satisfaction for a yearly value of £500"; and on the 24th March Carew Raleigh signed his acceptance of this settlement, when it was ordered that the commissioners for compounding at Goldsmith's Hall should direct the commissioners for sequestration in Somerset to allow the said Carew Raleigh quietly to enjoy and take the rents thereof.⁵⁰ Thus, as Digby had secured Sherborne from Raleigh, the latter now ousted Digby from Clevedon, perhaps as some compensation. Other messuages, lands, and tenements, parcel of the manor, were assigned, 27th July, 1652, to Lady Brook, with the names of Hugh Hodges, Thos. Chafe, and Wm. Sansom.⁵¹ In 1658 there was some transaction by deed between these parties and Sir John Wake, perhaps with the idea to confirm their title.⁵²

On the 3rd March, 1652, Baldwin Arthur, Esq., contracted for the purchase of messuages, tenements, and lands, in the occupation of Thomas Arthur, and having paid down a moiety

(49). *Roy. Comp. Pap.*, vol. xx. fol. 557.

(50). *Roy. Comp. Pap.*, 1st series, vol. x. fol. 555.

(51). *Roy. Comp. Pap.*, 1st series, vol. x. fol. 559.

(52). MS., Sir Arthur Elton.

of the money "on the 23rd April last," was put in possession.⁵³

John, Earl of Bristol, died in Paris, 16th January (the 6th, English style), 1652,⁵⁴ and was succeeded by George, 2nd Earl, to whom the estates were restored on the return of Charles II, 1660.⁵⁵ He was succeeded by John, 3rd and last Earl, who died, September, 1698, without issue, and was buried at Sherborne. He married twice, his second wife, Rachel, daughter of Sir Hugh Windham, Knight, of Silton, Dorset, judge of the Common Pleas, a son of Windham of Orchard, surviving him. By his will he left directions for the sale of the Clevedon property, and it thus passed by purchase, in 1709, to Mr. Abraham Isaac Elton of Bristol, created a baronet in 1717.

There were other transactions with land within the manor, not noticed here. In 1630 there was an agreement between Robert Wynbowe and Richard Holworthie and his wife, for lands and common rights in Clevedon, Weston-in-Gordano, Walton, Portishead (*alias* Possett), Clapton, and Tickenham.⁵⁶

In the British Museum⁵⁷ are some Court Rolls of the manor of Clevedon for the years 1321, 1327, 1389, and 1396, from which the then income can be learned.

After these discussions and the examination of the church,

Mr. GREEN mentioned that at the Dissolution there was in Clevedon the Chantry or Free Chapel of Hydall, hitherto entirely unknown and not mentioned in any of our histories. It occurred to him that as the road which passes the Court is known now as Highdale there would be some connection with it, and that Hydall was the chapel of and near to the Court House, which it would be noticed was here unusually distant from the church. These chantries being dissolved, the lands

(53). *Roy. Comp. Pap.*, 1st series, vol. x, fol. 561.

(54). *Roy. Comp. Pap.*, vol. x, fol. 564.

(55). *Collins's Peerage*, vol. viii, p. 253.

(56). *Recovery Rolls*, 6th Charles I, 1630, Roll 175. *Feet of Fines*, Michaelmas, 6th Charles I, Somerset, No. 30.

(57). *Additional Charters*, Nos. 7,659, 7,660, 7,661, 7,662.

belonging to Hydall were leased in 1534; the value, per annum, one Robert being chaplain of the same, was £6 8s. 2d., from which 12s. 10d., the usual tenths, were to be deducted.⁵⁸ A second Survey of these properties took place in the 2nd Edward VI, 1548, when the return names: "one messuage callyd Hydall being within the Towne of Clyvedon with all and singular landes meadowes pastures and fedinge thereunto belonging letten to farme to John Bulbecke for terme of 63 yeares by Indenture datyd the 12th daye of Marche in the 26th yeare of the reigne of our late souveraigne lorde Kinge Henry VIII. Plate and ornaments therein none.

Memor: There hath ben neyther incumbent nor other mynister resident upon the saide free chapell syns the date of the foresaide Indenture, but the lessee receyveth the proffects of the same to his owen use as may appere by the first booke of Survey of College Chantries &c. and ther is nothing presented concerning the free chapell at the last Survey, howsoever the matter goeth."⁵⁹

Notwithstanding a determined search for it, this first Survey cannot be found. Probably however the weight of the plate and lead and bells would be all the further information gained.

Proceeding now to the churchyard the tower was again critically examined. The possibility of pre-historic remains being near in the fields around was suggested, the ground being closely searched by the eyes of an active Member.

Mr. GREEN then mentioned that there had occurred here as in most parishes squabbles on the question of tithe paying, which were set at rest by the timely Commutation Act. In 1733 the Vicar brought his action against a parishioner for non-payment, setting out that he claimed tithe on cattle, sheep, lambs, and wool, but that the defendant, just before his sheep were shorn, and just before they dropped their lambs, drove off his stock to other lands in another parish and then asserted

(58). *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, vol. i. p. 186.

(59). *Chantry Certificates*, Somerset, Nos. 42, 99.

that no tithe was due in Clevedon. The defendant answered that he occupied twenty acres called Warth land, and other ground, but denied that he had driven away any stock to defraud. He believed there was due to the plaintiff by ancient custom one penny for each calf, and one penny for each lamb. He acknowledged a tithe was payable on wool, but denied it as claimed for cattle depastured, as there was a custom of one penny yearly and no more for every acre depastured by unprofitable cattle; this being four pence per acre for strangers depasturing their cattle but not residing in Clevedon. He was willing to pay and had tendered what he considered was properly due. The Court eventually decreed that the defendant must account and pay, but appointed the deputy of the Court to arrange the amount and to make all fair allowances.⁶⁰

In 1753 another quarrel arose, when the Vicar exhibited his bill against some parishioners, and claimed that he had been always entitled to all tithes of agistment, milk, calves, lambs, wool, and other small tithes and offerings, and from apples, pears, and other fruit, but as the defendants refused to pay, he with Sir Abraham Elton and others had agreed, in February, 1744, on a terrier of the tithe, by which a modus of five pounds a year was to be paid for the capital messuage of the demesne lands of the manor, and one shilling and sixpence in the pound for agistment tithes. The defendants answered that they did not reside in the parish, and that their father also had never occupied his land but leased it for years, they were therefore not recompensible to the plaintiff as the tenants ought to have paid, and they claimed further that such tithes should in consideration of the years elapsed be considered as paid. They knew nothing of any terrier. The court ordered that the defendants should pay twenty shillings for agistment of dry and unprofitable cattle for two years demanded, with costs, but that all other claims should be dismissed, without costs.⁶¹

(60). *Exchequer Decrees*, Michaelmas, 7th Geo. II, No. 10.

(61). *Exchequer Decrees*, Hilary, No. 3.

The party now dispersed somewhat, proceeding leisurely homeward. Passing through the meadow by the sea, Mr. GREEN gave an episode of some litigation about the repairs of the sea wall. It seemed that there was in Clevedon a farm, known as Perry's Marsh farm, worth about £80 a year, and there belonged to it a large piece of ground called the Warth adjoining the sea shore by the Severn, but about seven feet higher than the shore, forming a natural bank of earth against the sea, and which had never been repaired by anybody. Within this marsh ground was a ditch and a bank cast up about three feet high, forming a second barrier. The sea breaking in, in 1667, destroyed the outer bank, and carried away about four score acres several feet in depth, and not only were the other forty acres left threatened with a like destruction, but the marsh land further in was also in danger. The question was who should repair. As the owners of the shore land refused to do so, an action was brought in the Exchequer by the inland owners, who alleged that it was from carelessness on the part of the shore owners from not keeping out the "woose" soil brought down by the river that the wall then lay "lacerated and worn down." The owners asserted to the contrary, and claimed that the whole district should be assessed, as the whole level would be preserved and benefited.⁶² The court decreed that this was right, but the plaintiffs not liking the judgment refused obedience and as local magnates endeavoured to intimidate their opponents by inflicting a heavy fine for their asserted neglect. The consequence was that Mr. William Strode and others the more inland owners found themselves committed to "ye p'son of ye fleete" for their contempt. On their bringing another action (Michaelmas, 33rd Chas. II) the former decree was confirmed,⁶³ and in the end of a long account occupying thirteen skins of parchment written on both sides, Mr. Strode and the others were ordered

(62). *Exchequer Decrees*, Michaelmas, 27th Chas. II, p. 208.

63). *Exchequer Decrees*, p. 311.

to be freed and their bonds for four hundred pounds to be cancelled.⁶⁴

The Members dined at the Royal Hotel, where the host had provided an unusually good entertainment, after which, at eight o'clock, there was a meeting at the Public Hall, when

Major C. E. DAVIS, F.S.A., of Bath, first gave some interesting details of recent discoveries made in that city, but as a full account will be printed by the Corporation of Bath, his remarks are only noticed here. In 1871 he found a Roman drain at a great depth, which had been made to carry off hot water from the Roman baths. By clearing out this drain they were enabled to carry their excavations to a greater depth, and the result was that they discovered recently a large bath, 80 feet long and 40 feet wide, within a large hall exceeding 120 feet in length, built of the most massive masonry. The excavations had revealed the fact that these baths must have occupied about one-fourth of the ancient city of Bath, so that really Bath must have been built for the purpose of bathing alone.

Mr. JEROM MURCH said he thought the meeting ought to be made aware how much, not only the city of Bath, but the archæologists of Somerset, owed to Mr. Davis for these interesting discoveries. They had not been made in consequence of any precise commission given to him by the Corporation, but were the result of untiring energy and hard work, pursued in the face of many discouragements. The large baths which had been discovered occupied a space four times the size of the Abbey Church, and that would give them some idea of the extent of them, and also some idea of the grandeur of the buildings which the Romans constructed for bathing purposes.

The Rev. Prebendary SCARTH said he considered this was one of the most remarkable discoveries that had yet been made. This, he believed, was the finest system of baths that had been discovered in Britain, or perhaps on the continent.

(64). *Memoranda Rolls*, Michaelmas, 33rd Chas. II, Roll 135.

There was nothing on this side of the Alps that had yet come up to it, with the exception of those found in Paris. It might be that they had not yet discovered the limit of the system. He might explain that these baths were 19 feet under ground, and it was only by going down with the aid of lamps that they could see them.

Bishop CLIFFORD asked if it were supposed that these baths were used by the Romans simply for the purpose of bathing, or as in the baths at Rome, where the bathing places occupied but a small portion of the buildings.

Prebendary SCARTH said, as far as had been ascertained, it appeared that they were made like the ancient Forum, with halls and other rooms surrounding them. When they were examined some years ago, it was stated that they were probably of the time of Titus. A few fragments of decorated work which had been found belonged to the best period of the Roman Empire.

The Rev. H. H. WINWOOD observed that in his opinion it had been by no means clearly shown, at present, that the remains were Roman, as the finding of a few fragments which were Roman did not prove that the works themselves were Roman. He did not wish to throw the slightest doubt upon Mr. Davis's statements, but when the operations had reached a more forward stage they would be better able to judge as to whether they were Roman or not.

Mr. E. SLOPER said it was a matter of general acceptance that the Roman towns of Britain were destroyed before the incoming of the Saxons, and he would like to know whether there was any sign of the destruction of these baths by means of fire.

Bishop CLIFFORD asked if there were anything to show when the baths were disused.

Prebendary SCARTH said there were no signs of fire. With regard to the other question, he was inclined to think that the baths were used up to about the fifth century; and as the pro-

cess of demolition had been going on for at least 1200 years, it was no wonder that other remains besides Roman things were found.

The Rev. H. H. WINWOOD suggested that the discovery Mr. Earle made, some time ago, might throw some light on the matter. The destruction might have taken place between the departure of the Romans and the incoming of the Saxons. That would give them a sort of approximate idea.

The Rev. Dr. HARDMAN, Lecturer of Yatton Church, next gave some notes on that building, as printed in Part II.

Mr. GREEN said he missed the western gallery that was in the church when they visited it twenty years ago. It was a fine example, and was put up by Lysons, the antiquary. It was so perfect an imitation of ancient work that it even deceived antiquaries as to its date.

Dr. HARDMAN said the gallery had been removed.

The PRESIDENT having thanked Dr. Hardman, next called upon Mr. J. MORLAND who read a paper on "A Roman road between Glastonbury and Street." Mr. Morland's paper will be found in Part II.

The Rev. H. H. WINWOOD objected to the name Roman as applied in this case, but time being very short there was unfortunately no discussion.

The PRESIDENT having thanked Mr. Morland, called on Mr. GEORGE, who read a short biographical notice of Judge Choke of Long Ashton.

The CHAIRMAN having thanked Mr. George for his paper, the meeting then terminated, soon after ten o'clock.

Wednesday.

The morning was fine, and a large party assembled at the Public Hall at ten o'clock. About half-past ten the start was made, and after a pleasant drive the first stoppage was at Tickenham, where the Court was inspected.

Mr. GREEN said they had a very interesting old manor house before them. The building, it would be noticed, had not quite the same plan as Clevedon Court, although the hall was still the principal part. Clevedon Court was about a century earlier. This house was of the 15th century, and they would notice that a change had taken place in the arrangements. The present library at Clevedon was probably the original cellar or store room, and over that would be a living chamber and bed room in one. There was but one living room in those days, and the family, except for meals, lived and slept in it. In the present building, however, the lower room at the end of the hall, corresponding to the Clevedon library, was a handsomely-panelled dining room. This marked a change in domestic habits, and one of considerable interest; it marked the withdrawal of the lord from the hall, where the servants and household had before all dined together. This was the result of another change, the rise of the serving class, who now left the livery of their master for a separate residence. As the hall was disused more bedrooms were provided, and the wings of the house were built to three or even four stories high; and eventually the hall, instead of an open roof, had rooms built over it. The projecting stone brackets at the sides here were probably for suspending lights.

Mr. FERREY drew attention to the windows of the hall, which he said did not belong to the 15th century, but to late in the 14th. They were transitional between the Flowing-Decorated and the Perpendicular.

The Church. 1400924

Mr. FERREY said this was a very interesting building, in which several different styles of architecture were represented. There must originally have been a Norman church, but all that remained of it was the chancel arch, which was of a very rude description, and evidently early in the period. The church must, to a great extent, have been rebuilt in the 13th century, the nave and aisles being of that time. The arcade was of a

similar type to that of Clevedon church, without any capitals. The aisles had later additions, the windows being of the Perpendicular character, and the parapet also. The tower was also of the Perpendicular period, and was a good specimen of the plainer type of Somerset towers. It was what he might call the Wraxall type. One of its great beauties was the charming tone of the rough stone of which it was built. There had evidently been no fewer than three chapels in the church. The porch was Early English, and was very interesting indeed, and in entering they would observe the remains of an ancient stoup. There was here a good specimen of an Early English doorway, and among other Early English remains was the font. The church was restored in 1878, and then he believed the walls were denuded of plaster; but it was a moot point among architects as to whether the old churches were originally plastered or not. He did not say whether it was right or wrong to take off the plaster, but for his own part he thought that church was originally intended to have been plastered, from the rough stone which was exposed now the masonry was open to view. There was a rather curious specimen at the end of the aisle of the transition between Early English and Decorated styles, for that was about the period when the first dawn of tracery was arising; it was a beautiful example of a window of the period, and was particularly interesting as showing how changes of style were gradually effected. There had no doubt been a rood-loft, but the entrance had been walled up.

Mr. GREEN described the monumental effigies now in the north aisle. The first was a knight of very early date; as early as 1191. He was represented as a crusader, was cross-legged, in chain-armour covered by a surcoat, and had a very long sword with no visible sword-belt. That he actually went on the crusade is implied by his having his sword sheathed, at rest. His right hand, now mutilated, seemed to be holding open the surcoat as if showing a wound in the thigh. The other male effigy, now in the corner, was also that of a crusader,

but was just a little later in date. There was a difference in his coif or head-piece, his sword was shorter, his shield was smaller. He was represented as in the act of drawing his sword; which was evidence that he had promised and was ready to go the crusade, but did not. The third effigy is that of a lady. She wears a very long robe held up by one hand, and a plain whimple round the chin, marking the fashion of early in the 13th century, the date of the second crusader, who was possibly her husband. That they had something to do with the building or altering the church was evident from the fact that their heads were used as corbels to the fine roll moulding over the entrance door within the south porch. Possibly this was done as a substitute for the promised crusade.

Mr. FERREY drew attention to the great changes which had been made in the north aisle. The square-headed windows were clearly not late Perpendicular, but transition between Decorated and Perpendicular. The roof of this aisle had been restored, but was a reproduction of the Somerset type of cradle ceiling, and there was a roof of a similar kind in the nave. There was a beautiful specimen of an Early English lancet at the west end of this aisle. He also called attention to a very interesting piece of the original stained glass in the south chancel aisle, representing the Crucifixion.

This is especially remarkable for the colour of the cross, which is a sage green, the æsthetic colour of our day, and which became a fashion in Italy early in the 13th century. Copied from a drawing most kindly and carefully made by Mr. R. W. Paul it forms the frontispiece to this volume.

Proceeding next to Wraxall, the "Tower House," "history unknown," as marked on the programme, was first visited.

Mr. GREEN, standing on the lawn, first acknowledging that he was indebted to the Rev. Fredk. Brown for the notices of early wills, gave its history as—

Birdcombe Court.

In early times there was seated here the family of Atte

More, or De la More, in Latin *Ad Maram*, literally By the More, by which name they were latterly known. In the Close Rolls as early as the 6th of King John, 1205, the name as Richard de Mora appears in connection with Somerset affairs, and in 2nd Edward III, 1328, Stephen de la More held lands in Yatton and Ywode. In the Diocesan Registers at Wells, under date at Banwell 1st Sept., 1331, a license was granted by the bishop to John Atte Møre de Birdcomb, to erect a private altar or chapel in his house, the same to be without prejudice to the parish church of Wraxall. "*Licentia concessa Johanni Atte More de Bredcomb, quod possit erigere Tabulam ligneam infra Mansum suum prædictum, et posito super altari Divina absque prejud: ecclesie parochialis de Wroxhall facere celebrari, per 1 annum.*"

Amongst the manuscripts in the British Museum is a deed dated at Wraxall in this year, by which Nicholas de la More conveys to John de la More the lands, tenements, and reversions held under the manor of Wraxall, which Robert de la More had purchased of Elys de Frye of Naylsey. In 1336, Christiana, widow of John de la More, passed them to Richard her son, they being then in the tenancy of Sibella Atte Halle and Roger Atte Fenne, at a pepper corn rent. Then there came a Nicholas de la More in 1337, and there is a deed of George de la More, to which his seal is attached—Barry, over all on a chevron 3 stars, for Bythemore, impaling a lion rampant,—and in 1408 there is another deed between Johanna widow of Richard Warre, and Johanna widow of George Bythemore, relating to the marriage and settlements of Johanna Warre and William son of George Bythemore. There is yet another deed, by which John Bythemore deals with the manor of Naylsey in the parish of Wraxall, and which is witnessed by John Newton, Kt., and Richard Arthur at Naylsey, 12th March, 12th Edward IV, 1472.⁶⁵ The family ended with Alice, the sister and heiress of John, who married David

(65). *Additional Charters*, Nos. 5450, 5453, 5466, 5467, 5472.

Perceval, who succeeded to the property shortly before or about 1500 and died in 1534.⁶⁶ David was a spendthrift and did his best to get through the property, when Elizabeth his mother-in-law attempted a rescue and bound him in a fixed sum, with conditions that he altered his conduct and handed over the wardship of his two sons to the said Elizabeth their grandmother. She seems to have quite reduced him to servitude, as David agreed not to eloigne himself, to well and truly and also honestly behave himself in word and deed and to ride and goo, kerve, sewe and give his diligent attendance at her table att all and eny tyme and tymes att the commandment of the said Elizabeth and her husband, unless by their especial license, without makyng of any hauntyng or usyng to any taverns, ale house, or suspect place or places. Also the said David was not to affye or marry himself to any person, onles it be by the speciall lycense advyse and counseill of the said Elizabeth and her husband, and that to such person as should be thought by them most convenient.⁶⁷ This interference came too late to save Birdcombe, which is next found owned by the Gorges family, so long prominent hereabouts. Sir Edmund Gorges by his will dated 27th April, 1511, bequeathed to his son William "the Hole House and the Mogge House," with appurtenances lying within the parish of Tickenham, to be held "with the manor of Birdcombe." No certain explanation of these names can be offered, but as a suggestion:—Hole was a game played with bowls, which were run into holes at the end of their course—a game in which ladies joined, perhaps represented in reduced scale for indoors by our bagatelle. A Mogge house, perhaps pronounced modge or mudge, *i.e.*, mud or plaster, was a detached building for idling and amusement. The two then may be now represented by our billiard-room, the place where idle time can be passed out of the way of the household.

(66). Collin's *Peerage*, vol. 7.

(67). *Close Rolls*, 25th Henry VIII, part 1, Mem. 17, No. 26.

In 1540 about, when Leland came to Wraxall, he notes that "Syr William Gorge hath there a meane old manor place in a valley, and on eche side of it on the hills is a fayre parke." By this word "meane," he does not quite mean what we mean by mean, but he means that it was a medium-sized middling sort of place. As at this time there appears to have been no other Sir William than the son of Sir Edmund, to whom Sir Edmund devised the manor in 1511, and as the situation of the place exactly corresponds, it must have been this house to which Leland alludes. The Gorges family in turn found it necessary to part with it, and it passed to a merchant of Bristol named Vawer, but apparently with a speculative title. William Vawer died in 18th James I, 1620, and by the enquiry as to his property it was found that he died seised of the manor of Birdcombe or Burdcombe, with all privileges and belongings, and that he left a son, Thomas, his heir.⁶⁸ In his will, dated Sept. 14, 1619, he says, "if there come any extent (*i.e.* seizure or execution) against my manor of Birdcombe for any debt of Sir William Gorges, there is a statute among my writings for £1000 for the warrant of one moiety of Birdcombe, and a bond of Sir Edward Gorges of London for another £1000, a warrant for the other half of the said manor of Birdcombe. Passing over Thomas and a generation or two, another William Vawer of Birdcombe Court, Wraxall, in the county of Somerset, Esquire, by his will, 28th April, 1748, bequeathed this manor to his only child Elizabeth, and she proved the will, 2nd March, 1750, as Elizabeth Hollester. So the property is traced sufficiently for our purpose. The valley in which it is placed is known as Burton Combe; Bourton being a part of the manor of Wraxall and the church still a chapel to it. A cursory examination of the house shows nothing of special interest, as the original plan has disappeared. Entering under the tower, beyond would be the hall, its space now filled with rooms or offices, but with some original timber in the roof.

(68). *Inq. P.M. Chancery*, 18th Jas. I, pt. 34, No. 20.

The part behind it is now a farm house, quite a distinct residence from the part seen from the front. But the tower, the prominent original piece, bears on the groined roof of its entrance porch a very curious puzzle. Immediately on the left in the corner is a female head wearing the small horned head dress, as seen better on the Newton monuments at Yatton. Diagonally opposite this is another female head wearing a different head dress, one which came rather later into fashion yet which was contemporary with the other, in the latter part of the 15th century. The carving in the corner on the right and that diagonally opposite to it do not seem to suggest any note; but the bosses on the groins are a great puzzle. Just over head within the porch is a shield bearing a heart, on each side is represented an animal which may be a sheep or a bear, but whether intended as supporters is not clear. Following the straight line, but omitting for the moment the centre boss, there is then a shield bearing nothing that can be described, but which would be heraldically three bars or barry of six if properly carved long enough to touch the sides of the shield. On the right of the centre there is what is known in heraldry as two triangles voided and interlaced, the middle being filled by a quatrefoil, to this there are necessarily six points all here ornamented, but, most curiously, four of the points bear the fleur-de-lys or trefoil and the two others each a heart, the division of ornament thus not being equal possibly simply the result of carelessness on the part of the then English workman. The centre boss requires a few moments examination to realise what it is, but it will gradually become clear enough. Although perhaps it represents rather the front quarters of four swans, it may be more quickly described as the front halves of two swans each with two necks: these halves being joined by the middle or back to back, one half facing outwards the other inwards, and projecting one foot on each side. The four necks, which are much twisted, are gorged with a link of a chain in the form

of a fret,—one void of the fret passing over each neck ; these frets are connected by a quatrefoil forming one other link which rests in the centre of the back, the centre of the whole.

Not one of these things is heraldry and the intention must be rather symbolical. The heart is the emblem of sincerity : the interlaced triangles, on which appears the trefoil, is the usual emblem of the Trinity : and the two-headed bird may symbolise a constant watch within and without, one head of each pair being supposed to be always awake. The date of the tower is marked by the head-dresses, which are of the latter part of the fifteenth century, but it is curious and unfortunate that no heraldic bearing marks the owner who built it. It may have been built just within the time of the Bythemores, or possibly it was a “folly” of David Perceval.

Wraxall Church.

A short walk brought the party to Wraxall church. Speaking outside,

Mr. FERREY said this church was one of the finest in this part of Somerset, and was evidently originally a Norman foundation, although there was not much left which belonged to that date, the south doorway to the porch being the only Norman work remaining. There were traces of an Early English church which must have been built afterwards. The porch and parvise are of that period. To commence with the tower, this was a specimen of the middle of the Perpendicular period, of a very plain and massive type, and adapted for a village church. He drew attention to the beautiful pinnacles which were set upon the buttresses of the tower. As they entered they would see there was a very fine tower arch, with remarkably good mouldings. There was also unusually massive treatment to the nave arcade opening into the north aisle. The west window of the north aisle was of later insertion, and was of very much later date than the tower. There was a fine Perpendicular font. The bench-ends were of a type not unknown in that part of the country : they

were not square-ended and moulded, but shaped also, and of a somewhat similar type to those at Clevedon. There was a sanctus bell-turret—not very usual in England, although there were three or four in that neighbourhood. There was a figure at the top of the west side of the tower, dressed regally and wearing a crown; probably King Richard.

When inside, Mr. Ferrey said there was absolute evidence that the north aisle was of the early Perpendicular period, the date being about 1419. That would account for the massive way in which the work was treated; and he thought the whole effect of the arcade was very fine indeed. The roofs were partly new and partly old, although they were all founded upon the old roof, there being nothing conjectural about the matter, as no doubt a roof of that kind always did exist. The tomb of Sir Edward Gorges, on the north side, was late Perpendicular—date, 1512. There was a curious piscina on the south side of the chancel, which was one of the remains of the church built in the Early English period. He could not, however, say that the wall was Early English.

Mr. GREEN pointed out the peculiarities of the costume on the monumental effigies, and remarked that the will of Agnes Gorges, 1419, mentions the recent building of the north “yle.” Her son, Sir Tibbald (Theobald), who died in 1468, lies under a plain stone in the church. He then drew attention to a curious little door and steps in the wall of the porch, which originally had some connection with a gallery above, but its exact use he would not pretend to determine.

The Rev. Prebendary SCARTH explained that he had a similar arrangement in his own church at Wrington, and having studied the subject, he was able to give them an explanation of the matter. There was originally a small chamber there which was used for the purposes of instruction; for catechising or otherwise addressing those not to be admitted into the church, and for occasional short services. The arrangement of the door was made so that the priest could go into the

church from the parvise, or into that little room. They would remember the words of Chaucer, who tells us of—

A serjeant of law, learned and wise,
Who often had been to the parvise.

The party next drove to Long Ashton, where they were hospitably entertained at Ashton Court. After luncheon, on the proposition of the PRESIDENT, a vote of thanks was accorded to Sir Greville Smyth for his great kindness and liberality, and acknowledged in his absence by the Rev. J. WAY.

Some time was then spent in inspecting the numerous family and historical portraits and other objects of interest.

Mr. GREEN noticed the portrait of the Marchioness of Northampton, who died in 1635, aged 86. She was a Swede, a daughter of Herwolfe Snachenburgh and came to England with Cecilia, wife of the Margrave of Baden, in 1565. She married first William Parr, Marquis of Northampton, and afterwards Sir Thomas Gorges, Knight. In the British Museum⁷³ there is a vellum roll with her portrait and those of Sir Thomas and their seven children, all neatly done in pen-and-ink, with the descents from them down to about 1640. There is much about her in Hoare's *Wiltshire*, under Longford Castle. In her will she bequeathed to her son, Sir Robert Gorges, £110, "to purchase land yielding £5 per annum, for the poor of Wraxall, where my late husband was born." Sir Thomas tried to settle the property in the family, even to the yssue or yssues yssue, to the eighth, ninth, and tenth son. To his loving kinsman, Sir Edward Gorges of Wraxall, and Sir Ferdinando Gorges, he left a token—a rapier, dagger, ring, a brooch, or pistol—to be accepted, not according to the value, but as a pledge of true loving affection. To his loving son-in-law, Sir Hugh Smithe, Knt., he left one of his best horses, with necessary "furniture;" to Lady Smithe, 100 marks, and Sir Hugh was appointed overseer of the will.

Ashton Church.

Mr. FERREY said this church, unlike some of those they had already visited, had nothing Norman remaining. The earliest remains were the effigies now in the porch, which had been removed from elsewhere, and which, he should say, were of the 14th century. The tower appeared to be rather earlier than the rest of the building, and was early Perpendicular. The nave arcade was certainly late Perpendicular—so late that one might almost call it debased. One of the most striking and remarkable features on entering the church was the splendid rood-screen, its date being about 1500. It had always been coloured, and when the church was restored the original colouring was reproduced under the direction of an experienced ecclesiastical decorator. It was not usual in churches in Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall, to see the screen stretched right across the whole width of the church, as in this case, but occasionally such instances were met with. This one, however, had remained singularly perfect. When the chancel screen was restored, at the expense of Sir Greville Smyth, other works of restoration were attended to in the church. The north wall was rebuilt as far as the porch; and a new vestry was built in place of the one then existing, which was quite modern. The chancel was rebuilt, and a new roof put to it; but there was no new work, except what was absolutely necessary. The roof of the north aisle was composed of the original oak, the best pieces being collected from the old roof and placed there. Formerly there were high pews and galleries. The roof of the nave, before the restoration, was plastered. He and his late father were responsible for the work done at the restoration. The chancel arch was very curious, the span being remarkably wide. There were some old fragments of painted glass to be seen in the church.

In reply to Mr. SLOPER, Mr. FERREY said there was no rood-loft, but merely a chancel screen.

Mr. JOHN PRICE prepared some notes (which were read by

the HON. SEC.) relating to Sir Richard Choke, and drawing attention to his fine monument, which was repainted in the original colours when the church was “restored,” in 1872. Sir Richard is first mentioned as an advocate in 1440, and was serjeant in 1453. In 1461 he was made Judge of the Common Pleas, but was never Chief Justice. In the British Museum there is a deed⁷⁰ of Sir Richard, dated 10th October, 12th Edward IV, 1472, by which he deals with lands in Stanton Prior and Marksbury. By his will he desires to be buried at Ashton, “in my chapel there,” and that there should be made a sculpture recording the day, month, and year of his decease. The monument is there, but it is without date or record of any sort. He then leaves money for masses to be sung daily, “solemnly by note,” for thirty days after his decease. This was the “month’s mind,” one of the superstitious observances forbidden at the Reformation. Then, after a custom at the time not uncommon, he leaves twenty pounds for amending feeble ways and bridges; and then to his son John, who succeeded him, the two basins and two ewers of silver with which he was daily served when strangers were present. His widow, dame Margaret, by her will, September, 1483, desired to be buried by her husband in Ashton. She left five pence to be given weekly to the poorest in Ashton, on Fridays, for twelve months after her death; and bequeathed to one Langley six marks (four pounds) a-year for four years, “to go to Oxford to school.” She also left twenty pounds to be spent in Gloucestershire, in mending bad ways, “for the soul of my husband, William Gifford, and me.” To Ashton church she left her gown of blue velvet, her kirtle of blue damask, and her “profession ring,” and a coverlet of tapestry work with eglicie to lay before the high altar on principal feasts, and at other times it was “to be occupied on a bed in the Chantry house to keep it from moths;” and she willed that the procurators of the church should see this done. To the friars of

Worspring she gave ten pounds for the building of their place, "to pray for her husbands, Sir Richard Chokke and William Gifford, and herself." She then directs her executors to make a window of three bays in Ashton church, glazed with her husbands arms and her own underneath, concluding with the confused direction for "Saint Sunday to be the top of the image and Saint Gregory in the other."

The profession ring mentioned was the result of a semi-vow, sometimes made by widows, not to marry again; but which here proved of no avail.

The son, John, who calls himself of Stanton Drew, gives us in his will a good instance of the very old desire to have a good funeral, and the equally old custom of hiring mourners. He ordered his executors to provide twelve torches, and four tapers of a convenient weight, to be holden by twelve poor men, who were each to have a long gown of black frieze, and fourpence to pray for his soul. A public repast of meat and drink was to be laid out free to all; and every poor man and woman who came was to have a penny to pray for his soul. The remains of the twelve torches after the funeral were to be distributed to various churches, one going to Ashton. An honest priest was also to pray for his soul, and for the souls of his father and mother, and his brother Thomas, for four years. His son, Sir John, also shows us the old and lasting desire to live for ever; in 1495 he gave the church house or chantry and lands, in trust for the parish, on condition that on Sunday, for ever, prayer should be offered up from the pulpit of Ashton church for the souls of himself and of all his ancestors deceased. This house is now the Angel Inn.

Mr. GREEN said the original stone altar lies under the east window; it was found buried during the restoration. There was formerly near the north-east corner of the churchyard a chapel, called Meryate Chapel, founded by Nicholas and Henry Choke, and it was taken down in 1774. At the Dissolution there was in it a chalice weighing nine ounces, and it had

rents from lands and tenements amounting to £4 18s. It was found that the feoffees, being bound to find a priest, paid the vicar twelve pence per week, and "the residue they converted to their own uses." The chapel was covered with lead, estimated to weigh seven "fooder."⁷¹

Flax Bourton Church.

A drive of about three miles brought the party to Flax Bourton Church.

Mr. FERREY said there was no doubt the south doorway had been removed from the old Norman church, and refixed in the late Perpendicular nave. He would say at once, in order that there might be no misapprehension, that the whole of the north wall was quite modern, the aisle was entirely new, and a modern vestry had been added. Happily it had been possible, in that case, to add to the church without disturbing a single vestige of the mediæval work. The roof of the church was almost a reconstruction of what was there before, except that the former one was lath and plaster between the ribs, and that one or two new bosses had been supplied where such were missing. The date of the chancel arch and south doorway were about 1140. It was very rich work, with a peculiar kind of ornamentation. The side of the arch next the chancel was plainer than the side next the nave. The church was probably dedicated to St. Michael. The nave was of later date than the rest of the church; about 1450. It was a simple, plain type of a Somerset Perpendicular church; but was especially interesting on account of the Norman remains. The south chancel windows, from the outside, were remarkable, and worthy of notice, owing to the grotesque animals forming the terminations of the labels. The south doorway was very narrow and very high, but was no doubt in exactly its original proportion.

(71). *Chantry Certificates*, No. 42, 1st and 2nd Edward VI, Somerset, No. 118.

Backwell Church.

The next place visited was Backwell, the object of interest being the church.

The RECTOR (Rev. E. Burbidge) epitomised an account and description of the building, which will be found printed in Part II.

Mr. FERREY said the remains of an Early English church existed here almost up to the west end. The well preserved rood-screen was a point of interest, and they would notice as a peculiar feature that the last bay of the nave roof next the chancel arch was made more decorated than the others. One feature of the Norman church not *in situ* was the much mutilated remains of the old Norman font, now placed under the tower. Mr. Street, the architect, had designed an entirely new font. Another curious thing was the double chancel arch, *i.e.*, two distinct arches side by side, of which he only knew one other instance, and that was at Kilmersdon in this county. The body of the building was Early English, and was very interesting, but it had been added to and altered in later times. One remarkable feature was the way in which the jambs on each side of the outer porch archway spread out. Some people thought they were built so; but he was of opinion that it was caused by a failure in the foundation. With reference to the tower some thought it was all of one date; but the upper portion was of later date than the sub-structure, which was clearly of about the middle of the Perpendicular period. Another remarkable thing was the way in which the last bay of the nave was cut in half, and it seemed apparently to have been built partly into the tower. The arcade of the nave was curious; the arches were of the Decorated period or possibly Early English, but the piers were of later date.

Chelvey Church.

This church was next inspected.

Mr. FERREY observed that in this church, as in others they had visited, they found traces of a Norman foundation; but

there was very little remaining of that date, only the south porch doorway. The edifice was a very good specimen of one of the earlier Perpendicular churches, of such a type as they often found—plain, and suitable for a village church. Like many village churches (though not so much in Somerset as in Devon and Cornwall), the roofs were continuous, with no chancel arch, and the whole treatment showed that there had never been one. There was evidently formerly a rood-screen. The south aisle was a manorial aisle to the Tynte family, of which there was absolute evidence. He wished to draw their attention to a series of three beautiful canopied tombs, the effigies of which were wanting. There were some interesting remains of painted glass at the east end of the Tynte aisle, and a pew belonging to the Tynte family at the west end of the aisle was a good specimen of late Jacobean work.

Mr. GREEN drew attention to a receptacle for an hour-glass upon the pulpit.

Chelvey Court.

The party then visited Chelvey Court, the remains of the fine old mansion house of the Tynte family, the fine staircase being the great object of interest, while many inspected the secret chamber.

Dr. HARDMAN pointed out that only about one-half of the house was left, the upper storey being completely gone, although the fine porch, with twisted columns, called a Solomon's column, was left.

After a glance at the barn, the party proceeded to Nailsea; but owing to the lateness of the hour, it was considered unadvisable to visit the Court, and this portion of the programme was most reluctantly omitted. They, however, visited

Nailsea Church,

which Mr. FERREY said belonged to the Perpendicular period. There was a rather peculiar nave arcade, the rich work and the carving of which were unusual. Like Chelvey, this church evidently never had a chancel arch. There was a rood-beam,

which had been carried by the curious corbels. In the south aisle there was a chapel, and the piscina still remained. One of the remarkable features of the church was its pulpit, entered by a staircase in the wall. He scarcely knew a pulpit, in a parish church, entered in that way; the whole arrangement of the staircase to it was very interesting. The roofs to the church were modern.

The party were then entertained at tea by the Rev. J. Johnson, the Rector, to whom, on the proposition of the PRESIDENT, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

The return journey was made during a heavy storm of rain; Clevedon was not reached until after seven o'clock.

The Evening Meeting

was not commenced until nearly nine o'clock, when the President took the chair. There was a good attendance.

The Rev. HENRY G. TOMKINS gave some account of the work which Mr. C. W. Dymond and himself had been doing at Worlebury; but he had to return home that evening, and was limited by the train to ten minutes. It was much to be regretted that their lamented friend, the Rev. F. Warre, had not reduced to a systematic report his account of the explorations some thirty years since, in which the speaker had taken some part. Most of those then concerned were gone, and it was felt that no time should be lost in making as perfect a plan and record of all that was really known. Mr. Dymond had brought to the meeting a most careful detailed plan, in which every portion of the ancient construction was given, and every pit marked from actual observation. Mr. Dymond and he (Mr. Tomkins) had been occupied for a good many weeks of the last two years in this work, and they had examined carefully the ditches, which had been left in the old explorations untouched, and had made detailed drawings and sections of the ramparts and trenches; and they were about to prepare

for publication these drawings, with other illustrations, and the plan, accompanied by a memoir which should embody all the records which can now be got together on the subject. They had not found the scratch of a tool on any of the masonry discovered. It was earnestly to be hoped that every effort would be used to prevent the further destruction of these most interesting and ancient military works, which were from time to time much injured by thoughtless schoolboys and excursionists. In their researches, Mr. Dymond and he had taken special care to cover in again with the loose stones those portions of the wall-work which they had opened for examination and measurement.

The Rev. H. H. WINWOOD said he supposed that Mr. Tomkins, when he spoke of tools, meant iron tools, but there was no reason why tools might not have been used. They would not expect to find marks on the limestone. He congratulated the Society on having such an active Member as Mr. Tomkins, and observed that there were equally important fortifications in the neighbourhood of Clevedon, and he trusted that the Clevedon people would work them up as those at Worlebury had been worked. The hills round Clevedon were full of interest and full of work, if only somebody would take the matter up.

The Rev. Prebendary SCARTH then read "A brief Sketch of Parish History;" being local notes relating to the parish of Wrington.

The PRESIDENT observed that it was surprising how little was known among people about interesting things of the kind of which they had just heard, and he felt grateful to those who, like Mr. Scarth, had made these matters their life-long study, when they came forward and gave their knowledge forth for the public benefit.

Mr. GREEN next read a paper "On some Militia Levies in Somerset," in the time of Elizabeth, which will be found in Part II.

The PRESIDENT, on behalf of the Society, having thanked the gentlemen who had contributed papers, the meeting terminated.

Thursday.

At the time fixed for starting the rain was descending in torrents; the start was consequently delayed. During the wait Mr. SCARTH, whose health would not allow him to venture further on such a day, read his notes on Cadbury and Portbury camps, both, on account of the weather, to be omitted from the day's work.

Cadbury Camp.

There are three Cadburys in Somerset. It was now with the camp of Cadbury over Tickenham that they had to deal. The situation was on a high ridge running parallel with the estuary of the Severn from Clevedon eastward to the river Avon. It commanded a view southward over the valley bounded by the Mendip Hills, terminating in the promontory of Brean Down and the bay of Weston, which lay to the west, with the camp on Worle Hill at the north-east extremity of the bay. On the east, at a distance of ten miles, were the two camps of Bower Walls and Stoke's Leigh on the opposite sides of Nightingale Valley, and a road seemed to have communicated with these. On the north-east was the earthwork over Portbury. On Stoke Leigh Down were two small circular earthworks, and two miles further west were appearances of three inconsiderable circumvallations, which lay on the direct road to the fortress of Cadbury Camp. The name was probably derived from an allusion to war; thus we had Cædmon or Cadmon, meaning war man or warrior. But it had been also thought a corruption of Coed wood, as Cadbury the fort in the wood. Cadbury was in the country of the ancient Belgæ.

The extent of ground within the camp was 7 acres, 1 rood, and 25 poles, and the area was 594 feet by 561 feet. The

inner rampart varied from 16 to 6 feet in height, and the outer one from 10 feet to 6 feet. There were three main entrances, though six might be counted, but three of them were apparently of modern date. The two to the north and west had each a return of the inner rampart to give additional strength, and on the east the entrance was slanting so as to render the defence more easy. The ramparts were composed of earth and stones worked out of the trenches, and put together without order or arrangement. They were very irregular in construction, not being in right lines as in Roman work, but in an irregular circular form. It had been stated that there were about 23,321 cubic yards of earthwork thrown up in making the camp, and supposing a man to throw up four cubic yards in 12 hours, it would take 6,000 men to do it in that time; it had evidently been executed by a race who had some idea of the principles of defence.

Along this same ridge of hill, where it touched the Avon, opposite Clifton, they found the camp of Bower Walls, now unhappily destroyed in preparing plots of ground for newly-built villas. This had three ramparts, and the core of the inner one was composed of concrete formed of run lime and stone. He did not think this had been the case with the rampart of Cadbury, neither were there appearances of dry walling as in the Worle Hill and Dolebury. Roman coins had been found within the camp, and a Roman villa on the level ground below on the way to Clevedon; lately some coins were found in Griffin field, in the Victoria-road. There was a very good plan of this camp in the *Archæological Association Proceedings*, vol. xxxi, 1875.

About half-past eleven the rain abated somewhat, and a fair number started in various conveyances which during the delay had been covered. Cadbury, the first visit marked on the programme being omitted, the first stoppage was at Clapton Court.

Mr. GREEN said the greater part of the house was new,

some small almost invisible portion being of the old foundation of the time of Edward II, the middle of the 14th century. The screen now outside was the original formerly in the early hall and was the earliest wooden screen in England. It was a pity that it was not in our Museum. Three spherical triangles formerly in the top had disappeared.

The Rev. FREDK. BROWN, F.S.A., contributed the following notice (read by the Hon. Sec.) on

The Two Ladies of Nash.

In the *Life of Bishop Ken*, by a Layman, the author mentions that from time to time, especially at Christmas, the Bishop retired from the gaieties of Longleat, from "the noise and hurry of the world," to Nash House, where dwelt two maiden ladies who revered him for his piety and who sympathised with the non juring clergy. The author knew nothing of these ladies and regrets that a more detailed account of them was not to be found. They were the two Misses Kemeys, Mary and Anne, daughters of Sir Charles Kemeys, second baronet, of Cefn Mably, Glamorganshire, who died in 1658.

These two ladies are often mentioned in his letters by Bishop Ken, who called their house "a kind of nunnery where I usually abide during my Lord Weymouth's absence," and as having a better title to the name of a religious house than those places usually so called. Both ladies died in 1708 and were buried in the Kemeys Chapel in Michaelstone y Vedw, Monmouthshire. A tablet there, erected to their memory, reads—

Mary, Ann, Kemeys, sisters who both chose
The better part, wise Virgins, Here repose,
Mary first crowned, Anne Languished till possessed
Of ye same Grave, of ye same Mansion blest.

Mary	}	55	October 5th	1708
Anne		51	December	

By their Freind.

Who this "Freind" was must remain unknown probably, but a fair guess may be made that it was Bishop Ken.

Mary, by her will, Dec. 11, 1701, gave all her mansion of Nash and lands in Clapton and Wraxall which she had purchased of Edward Gorges, Esq., and other property, to her sister Anne. Anne, by her will, Nov. 8, 1708, after desiring to be buried with her sister, made many bequests. "To my honoured and respected friend, Dr. Ken, £100, which I humbly entreat him to accept as a small token of the great duty and affection which my sister and I bore to him." Again "to my much honoured the late deprived Bishop of Bath and Wells, £200, to be distributed by him among the deprived and non jurant clergy." Again, after all legacies were paid, £100 more were left to the bishop and £100 more amongst the deprived clergy.

These ladies became so well known that Mrs. Mary Morgan of St. Georges, by her will, March 14th, 1699, bequeathed them rings of the value of twenty shillings each, under the names of "The two Ladyes of Nash."

Sir Charles, third baronet, a brother of these ladies, died in 1702, and by his will, proved 5th May, 1703, he provided that if his son Charles died without issue his manors should descend to his daughter Jane. This Charles, the fourth baronet, died unmarried, 29th June, 1735, and the estates then passed in accordance with the will to his sister Jane, who, by her marriage with Sir John Tynte, Bart., in Clapton Church, on the 25th Dec., 1704, carried the property into that family.

Bishop Ken was in no way connected with the Kenns of Kenn; the idea is "a fond thing vainly invented." I have the whole history of this family through their wills, and have thus married and buried almost all of them. The two families were entirely distinct. The Kenns of Kenn invariably spell their name with the double *n*; the family of the Bishop always with only one.

Mr. GREEN then gave a short notice of another matter, a dispute on the question of tithes to which Miss Mary Kemeys

was a party, not without interest as giving us an insight into parish life at the time. As Miss Kemeys refused to pay the demands made upon her the rector brought his action and a Commission sent down from London took the depositions of many witnesses at Fayland's Inn, Wraxall, on the 15th April, 1696. Several interrogatories were put on both sides, but, reduced for the present purpose, there were really but two, viz.:

1. Do out-dwellers renting land in Clapton, pay their tithes in kind, or, is there a modus or composition for them?

2. Doth the messuage or mansion house inhabited by Mary Kemeys stand in Clapton or in Wraxall?

Miss Kemeys had lived now about three years at Nash. In Wraxall she owned but thirty acres, and in Clapton one hundred and thirty-nine, a portion of which was arable; all, with the exception of two small pieces was in hand and farmed by a bailiff. There were fifty-seven acres of meadow in Clapton; about thirty acres worth fifteen shillings an acre, fourteen or thereabouts were worth seventeen shillings an acre "before they were ploughed," and ten others were worth about eighteen shillings an acre.

The witnesses called for the rector said that the manner of paying tithes by out-dwellers was for corn, grain, apples and fruit in kind, and a shilling an acre per annum for meadow land. The in-dwellers paid two pence per acre for meadow, two pence for a milch cow, a penny half penny for a heifer, and for all others as corn, grain, apples and fruit, as also for calves, wool, lambs, and pigs, they paid in kind. The question of the difference between out-dwellers and in-dwellers had often been discussed, and the payment of twelve pence for meadow was "scrupled at by some." One witness called for the rector said that he had lived in his own house in Portbury, within ten yards of Clapton, and had paid the shilling per annum for meadow rented in Clapton, but he considered that he paid "above the rate."

The great house, it was stated, stood in Wraxall; the little

house, called the dairy house, was in Clapton, but the defendant was taken to be of Wraxall. She often went to Wraxall church, had built a pew there and had buried Mr. Kemeys her uncle there. Her sister who lived with her was rated for her personal estate as an inhabitant of Wraxall. Edward Gorges, Esq., aged 60, who had dwelt at Nash and who had sold it as a trustee of Henry Winter, in giving his evidence said it was in Wraxall; and Wm. Winter of Wraxall, gent., said it was always so reputed in his father's lifetime.

The collector of the King's tax stated that the mansion house stood in a piece of ground called Nash's; he had rated the defendant and her sister "or both or one of them," as inhabiting Wraxall, but they had refused to pay and he had distrained and taken some goods; the money was afterwards paid by Mistress Kemeys, or Mr. Lewis Kemeys, or one of them, and he had then returned the goods seized. The defendant and her servants had always "paid for their polls" in Wraxall, and she had paid there for a fifth part of a militia horse in 1694. For some eight or ten years past, since the office of churchwarden and overseer had become burthensome "by reason of the few men to serve," some one had been paid from the rates for those duties, but out-dwellers and in-dwellers for such purposes were rated alike and contributed only according to their holding.

In answer to the interrogatories put for the defendant Miss Kemeys, one witness stated that in Clevedon and Kingston Seymour the payment for meadow tithes was a penny an acre for inhabitants and four pence an acre for out-dwellers. Others deposed that they knew the messuage or farm called Nash and that Mr. Henry Winter had lived there, but sometimes he lived at Clapton Court. About five or six and thirty years ago he had pulled down the old house and built the present one; both houses were wholly in Wraxall, but the ancient house called the Dairy, with the barn and two little houses belonging were in Clapton. Some of Mr. Winter's

servants lodged in the dairy house as did some then, and one Mr. Kemeys, a relation of the defendant's, had lived and died there. There was only a backside or yard of about twenty yards between them and Nash. They were never separate from Nash except for a time when Mr. Winter's widow rented Nash of the trustees, and when one Mr. Burges, a minister, with his family "taught school there for about a year." The cattle used in ploughing were kept in Clapton, but calved sometimes in Clapton and sometimes in Wraxall. Mr. Winter whilst he lived at Nash was always reputed to be of Clapton "for that he generally went to that church"; he had always "so owned and writt himself," and had paid his tithes of corn, lambs and pigs as other inhabitants, but how he paid for his meadow and pasture they "knew not." It was never "esteemed" or taken that Mr. Winter ought to pay as an out-dweller. The custom was in Clapton to pay one penny per acre for meadow above the Yeo and two pence per acre for meadow below the Yeo; they never knew of any difference although complainant had claimed extra from out-dwellers. One witness living in Portbury had paid the demand to "keep peace;" another an in-dweller had paid two pence for all his meadow both above and below "because the complainant had demanded it, and it was not worth his while to contest it." On behalf of Miss Kemeys it was deposed that she had offered an account, as sent in by her bailiff, with payment of one penny and two pence per acre for her meadow according to the custom for in-dwellers, but the rector refused to take it or "to make an Easter book." Her tithes in corn and grain had always been "set out," and these had been taken. She had also "set out" her tithes of wool and gave due notice, and had "kept it in her hands for several years, and when the same was decayed by long keeping and moths, she had sold it and weighed out the like quantity of new wool and kept the same for above a year"; she had also sent a pig and one witness said two pigs, but the complainant declined to accept them,

declaring that he would have agistments and would not not take this tithe in kind.

It was clear enough from this evidence that a resident in Nash was an out-dweller, and that out-dwellers paid a higher tithe. No decree relating to or following this enquiry has been found: possibly Miss Kemeys was advised that further proceedings would be useless.

The Rev. C. WOOD, the Rector, then called attention to some curious and rare paintings—portraits on wall panels—representing his own ancestors. They were stated to belong to the time of Queen Anne, when it was a decorative fashion borrowed, it was supposed, from Holland. Mr. Wood also exhibited two supposed pre-Reformation altar candlesticks, but the PRESIDENT declared them to be of the time of Archbishop Laud, and made under his “Orders.” They evidently fitted the Early English bosses at the east end of the church.

The church was under “restoration.”

The ARCHITECT, Mr. Barnes, of Bristol, said the earliest part of the building was the tower; he believed the jambs in the tower arch were insertions, some of the stones being evidently upside down. He drew attention to a window in the north wall, discovered during his present work.

Mr. GREEN pointed out the bench ends, the earliest in England; they were not handsome, but he hoped that they would not be “restored” out of sight.

Mr. WOOD said they would be retained; they were too precious to be cast away, although they were apparently made before saws and planes were known. He had noticed the singular, unusual termination of the chamfer; this being the same as on the stone doorway in the porch, and also the doorway leading to the rood-loft, both now for the first time exposed to view. By this he had determined their date as the time of the enlargement of the building—about 1442. The re-consecrating cross over the hagioscope would also remain.

The Wynter monument, with effigies, temp. Charles II, was examined.

Mr. SCARTH kindly sent the following note on the sanctus bell, which hangs in a cot between the nave and the chancel, and which he thought ought not to be passed without remark. This bell, says Mr. Ellacombe, in his *Church Bells of Somerset*, p. 39, being pre-Reformation, is probably unique. Around the sound bow it bears for legend—

SIGNIS CESSANDIS ET SERVIS CLAMO CIBANDIS.

This legend has led to much correspondence.⁷² The translation may read : *Signis cessandis* (When the great bells stop), *et servis cibandis* (and when the servants take their meal), *clamo* (I sound). As this bell was used probably only at the elevation of the host, it was to this food to which the legend alludes. *Signa* was the word for great bell, and perhaps if the other bells also remained, some similar or rhyming legend would be found on one of them. A great bell called servants and workers in the fields to their noontide meal—the bread and butter bell, bread and cheese bell, or some equivalent, as it is called on the continent.

The party now proceeded to Portbury, where luncheon was served in the schoolroom.

The PRESIDENT having thanked Mr. Tyler, the Vicar, for his kind attention and arrangements,

Mr. GREEN gave the history of

Portbury Priory.

This was a grange or cell belonging to the priory of Bremmer, in Hampshire; a priory of Austin or Black Canons, a fraternity introduced into England by Henry I, soon after the year 1105.

In 1243, on the death of Baldwin de Ripariis (Rivers),

(72). See *Notes and Queries*, 1st series, vol. x. pp. 332, 434; vol. xi. p. 150. It is also noticed in Mr. Ellacombe's *Bells of the Church*, p. 263; and a further account of it will be found in the *Journal of the Archæological Association* for 1875, p. 225.

Earl of Devon, he was found possessed or seised of the manor of Breummora and the manor of Portbury.⁷³ After him Portbury is found held in common, in equal shares, by Isabelle and her brother, Baldwin. In 1268, the King, always jealous and watchful in matters relating to the land, and perhaps in this case, as will be seen, not without a personal interest, summoned the Prior of Brommore to Winchester, to show his title to certain lands named, when with him came also Isabelle de Fortibus, Countess of Albemarle and Devon, and her brother Baldwin de Insula,⁷⁴ and she then acknowledged that she had given, and there and then confirmed the gift, to the said Prior, besides several manors and other lands in Hampshire, of twenty librates of land with belongings in Portbury.⁷⁵ A librate was a sufficient quantity to produce one pound per annum; the word was used when the acreage was not known, or perhaps sometimes when it was desired not to state it; twenty librates were here half the manor.⁷⁶ On the death of Baldwin de Insula (Lisle), Earl of Devon, his half of Portbury fell to the King, and it was declared worth £20 per annum.⁷⁷ Here the value only is again directly stated as in early writings generally, the acreage was not considered, hence it is always difficult to determine it.

An entry in the *Red Book of the Exchequer*, of a rather earlier date than the above, shows the connection of Isabelle with Hampshire, as she is there called Isabelle de Fortibus de Insula Vecta. By this, too, it is seen that the island from which her brother Baldwin got his name, was the Isle of Wight. On the death of Henry III, Edward I, his successor, found that during Henry's long absence abroad the tenants of the Crown had been alienating properties and withholding other dues; they had, too, in many cases claimed the profits from

(73). *Inq. P.M.*, 29th Henry III, No. 47.

(74). *Placita Abbreviati*, p. 172.

(75). *P. Coram Rege*, 52nd Henry III, No. 136, Roll 1.

(76). *Testa de Neville*, p. 171.

(77). *Miscellaneous Books*, Q.R., vol. v. fol. 751.

markets and fairs, and then oppressed the people by exacting heavy tolls and rents. By patent, 11th October, in the second year of his reign, Edward ordered an enquiry in every hundred, and the evidences returned are now known as the *Hundred Rolls*. It was found that the Prior of Brymmer took wreckage and made other claims in Portbury, but by what warrant the jury knew not—that is, he had no warrant.⁷⁸

The next step was a commission, known as Quo Warranto, to learn by what authority these claims were made. At a Court held at Somerton, 8th Edward I, the Prior of Brummore was summoned to answer how or by what warrant he claimed wreckage, waifs and strays on his land, without a license from the king; but “he came not, and otherwise made default,” whereupon the sheriff was ordered to take these liberties or privileges into his hands, and hold them for the king.⁷⁹ In 1291, the Prior of Brommore was estimated to have nine marks or £6 from Portbury.⁸⁰

The King granted his half of the manor of Portbury to Maurice Berkley; and in 1345, Maurice de Berkley had a knight’s fee as owner of the hundred, and half a knight’s fee in Portbury, valued together at 60s.; and the Prior of Brommore had half a fee in Portbury, valued at 20s.⁸¹ In 1397, on the death of William de Monte Acuto, Earl of Sarum, amongst the large number of fees belonging to him, was a fee in Portbury, half due from Thomas de Berkley and half from the Prior of Brommore, held under the manor of Shepton Montague, and valued at 50s.⁸² Thus the value or rental gained from it is seen to have been increased from 40s. to 50s.

A continued quiet possession for over a century must now be supposed, as no other special record is found. With a

(78). *Hundred Rolls*, p. 130, 4th Edward I.

(79). *Placita Quo Warranto*, p. 698, 8th Edward I. *Assize Rolls*, M₁₄², 1, Roll 65 d.

(80). *Taxatio Ecclesiastica*.

(81). *Exchequer, Q.R., Miscellaneous Books*, vol. iii. p. 254, 20th Edward III.

(82). *Inquisition, Post Mortem*, 20th Richard II, No. 35, Mem. 6 a.

lifeless life around them these institutions gathered their harvest; with poverty and wretchedness, oftentimes actual famine without, the cloister alone offered wealth and power, comfort, certainty, and ease—all that wealth can bring. The retribution came, and sharply. An Act of Parliament, passed in 1536, decreed the “abolucion” of this system, which it declared with its “pompe, glory, avarice, ambition, and tyranny uppon the bodyes and goodes of all Christen people,” had “spoyled this realme yerely of ynnumerable treasure,” so that “being overweried and fatygated with the experience of its infynite abhomynacions and myschiefs,” it should be “extinguysshed.” The dissolution of Portbury followed, in the same year. On the 9th November the survey showed the advowson, which belonged to the Austin Abbey in Bristol, with the (priory) manor part of the Priory of Brymmer, as worth in rents £9 10s. 3½d.; the Manor Farm, £5; perquisites of Court, £2.⁸³

These were then granted to Henry, Marquis of Exeter, and Gertrude his wife, to be held by military service.⁸⁴ But the Marquis being attainted in 1539, and losing his life for correspondence with Cardinal Pole,⁸⁵ Portbury reverted to the Crown; the advowson was then given as part of the endowment for the new bishopric of Bristol.⁸⁶ The Priory Grange, with belongings, and thirty-five acres of wood, passed by payment of £64 19s., to Robert Goodwyn.⁸⁷ The Grange or Priory was valued at £15 5s. 3½d.; the rents of assize in this amount being £9 11s. 11½d. The wood, from which the farmer had the right to “hedgebote, fyerbote, ploughbote, and carte-bote,” that is, sufficient allowance for repairs and general use, was valued at 17s. 4d. In the wood were one hundred short, shrubbed oak “pollyngs” of forty years’ growth, valued, at

(83). *Augmentation Office*, Roll 31, Henry VIII, *Ministers’ Accounts*.

(84). *Pat. Roll*, 28th Henry VIII, part 1, Mem. 26.

(85). *Statutes*, 31st Henry VIII.

(86). *Augmentation Office*, *Miscellaneous Books*, vol. ccelxxxii. p. 13.

(87). *Patent Rolls*, 34th Henry VIII, part 12.

two pence each, at 16s. 8d. The "sprynge" of the wood and wastes, and other sundries, were put down at 100s.⁸⁸

This manor of Portbury Priors passed with the marriage of Margaret Goodwyn to the Wakes of Clevedon, and so to Digby, Earl of Bristol, in 1630. With his other property, it was sequestrated and sold for his adherence to Charles I. On the 27th July, 1652, the commissioners for sale of these lands assigned it to Lady Brooke, with the names of Hugh Hodges, Thos. Chafe, and Wm. Sansom, and with it a messuage and land called Goat Hill Farm, whose locality is not defined.⁸⁹

It will be seen from this account of the Priory that the Berkeleys, to whom its foundation has hitherto been attributed, had really nothing whatever to do with it.

But the other half of the manor of Portbury which was granted with the hundred of Portbury to Maurice Berkley after the death of Baldwin de Insula, remained in the family for some time.⁹⁰ Maurice died in 1281, possessed of the hundred and of half the manor.⁹¹

In 1336, Thomas de Berkley founded the Chantry of the Blessed Mary in Portbury, and received a license to give a messuage and forty acres of meadow land, and forty shillings rents in Portbury, for a priest to celebrate therein daily, for the good of his own soul and of the souls of all his ancestors and posterity.⁹²

In 1344, on the death of Thomas, the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem appears in the inquisition as part owner with him,⁹³ but in what way is not clear; whatever the intention, this gentle hold was not sustained. In 1348, Maurice Berkley received a grant for a market at Portbury.⁹⁴ The Berkley

(88). *Particulars for Grants*, 34th Henry VIII.

(89). *Royalist Composition Papers*, 1st series, vol. x. fol. 559.

(90). *Charter Rolls*, 8th Edward I, part 1, Mem. 11.

(91). *Inq. P.M.*, 9th Edward I, No. 27.

(92). *Patent Rolls*, 11th Edward III, part 1, Mem. 31.

(93). *Inq. P.M.*, 18th Edward III.

(94). *Charter Rolls*, 22nd Edward III, part 1, Mem. 19.

line ended in 1417 with Sir Thomas, who died on the 13th July,⁹⁵ leaving an only daughter Elizabeth, married to Richard de Bellocampo (Beauchamp) Earl of Warwick, who died in 1439.⁹⁶

At the Dissolution, the chantry or free chapel, within the church, was granted to John Aylworth. It was found to be endowed with rents from a toft called a "Roveles thing"; a close of land of three acres, called the Orchard, and three other acres, valued at						4s.
A messuage and an acre of land at Dikelake	...					12s.
Rents and messuages in Hamgrene, with all other belongings	...	...	...	...	...	6s.
Rent from five acres of pasture	...		...	...	...	5s.
Total ⁹⁷						27s.

In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* this property was returned as worth 37s., less tenths 3s. 8½d., leaving clear, 33s. 3½d. The chaplain received a pension of £2 13s. 4d. per annum.⁹⁸

The above name, "Roveles thing," must mean a roofless thing, as by the kindness of the Rev. Fredk. Brown, will be seen in the following extract from the will, dated 1567, of Thomas Morgan, of Failand, in Wraxall, gentleman, and who was buried in Portbury church, in 1572. He leaves to Edmund Morgan, his eldest son, the house at Failande, called Medes Court; the ground called Colonel Tucker's, and Sennars' Court, with another "roufles bargain," held of Sir George Norton, in Portbury. To his third son, William, he left his house in Portbury, with another "roufles tenement," lying in the cross tithing called Bullibroke's More, and another bargain in the tithing of Caswell, called Bulkey.

There was here also the free chapel of St. Katherine,⁹⁹

(95). *Inq. P.M.*, 5th Henry V, No. 50.

(96). *Inq. P.M.*, 17th Henry VI, No. 54.

(97). *Particulars for Grants*, 2nd Edward VI.

(98). *Willis's History of Abbies.*

(99). *Close Roll*, 19th Edward III, Mem. 28 d.

founded by Thomas Berkley, and which was probably close to or in Pill, as near the hamlet of Ham Green there is a piece of land called Chapel Pill. At the dissolution it was found that there was no land belonging, but that there were some endowments in Bristol for "obits and trentalles." The rent of the chapel and the parcel of land belonging, called a stiche, was valued at 16d. A stiche was a west country word for a small enclosure; in this case it was "a rod of land on which the chapel stood." There were in the chapel two chalices, weighing $18\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.; ornaments, prayed at 2s. 5d.; lead, three fother—about three tons (a fother of lead is 19 cwt.); and bell metal from two bells, $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.¹⁰⁰ The chapel, with the lead and bell metal, was granted to George Payne of Hutton, gentleman; the Bristol land to Richard Roberts.¹⁰¹

Except through some mention in a will or deed, there is no record, as would be the case with us, as to when the Priory buildings were first raised. Possibly some traces of early character might be discovered, but visibly the architectural style of the present ruins would seem to be of the fifteenth century, that century of prosperity when so much similar work was done in Somerset. It would thus have been comparatively recent at the time of the Dissolution.

Leaving the Priory, a short walk brought the party to the church, where the Rev. EDWARD O. TYLER read some notes on the

Church and Churchyard.

We can hardly pass through this venerable churchyard without noticing the two fine old yew trees, which show an unusual quantity of timber. The larger of the two measures 19 feet in girth 7 feet from the ground, and is nearly as high as the church tower. They are supposed to be about 500 years old.

Many of our country churches have been built or had additions made to them at different periods, and so, like this

(100). *Chantry Certificates*, Somerset, 42, No. 116.

(101). *Particulars for Grants*, 3rd Edward VI, section 2.

one, have details about them of various styles of architecture.

In the porch we have a fine specimen of Norman work, very perfect. The niche above clearly had a figure in it; probably that of the Virgin, to whom the church is dedicated.

Before the Reformation, considerable portions of the marriage and baptismal services, and also much of that relating to the churching of women, were performed in it, as shown in the rubric of the service book according to the use of Sarum. There is a priest's room or parvise over the porch in very fair preservation, the doorway to it being within the church.

The south aisle was restored in 1875, and is now fitted up and used for our services in Advent and Lent, saints' days, and children's services. The roof is an exact copy of the old one; the walls were scraped and pointed as now seen. By the door are the remains of the old stoup for holy water. The windows are Perpendicular, of the 15th or 16th century. At the east end is a sedilia with three seats, a piscina, and credence shelf. This part of the aisle was often separated from the rest of the church by a screen, similar to that between the chancel and nave, and thus formed into a private chapel or chantry.

It was anciently the custom for lords of manors and persons of wealth to build small chapels or side aisles to their parish churches, and these were endowed with lands sufficient for the maintenance of one or more priests, who were to celebrate mass at the altar erected therein to some favourite saint for the souls of the founder, and for whose remains these chantry chapels served as a burial place. At this service no congregation was required to be present, but merely the priest and an acolyte to assist him. In the reign of Edward III, Thomas, Lord Berkeley, gave certain lands in this parish to the Vicar for this purpose. Lady Eve Berkeley, wife of the 3rd Lord Berkeley, with many of the same family, were buried in this church.

Some allege that a second altar in a parish church is illegal:

whether it be so or not, I will leave others to decide ; all I can say is, we have our Bishop's permission for placing it here, and it would be unseemly to conduct a saint's day morning service without one, and the manner in which this aisle is fitted does away with any objection that could be urged against it. The oak seats are very old, and were removed here from the lower part of the nave at the time of the restoration.

The nave was restored in 1871 in perfect keeping with the original. Including the aisles, it is a square of 64 feet. The whole building is totally void of any ornamental work. The arches are very plain ; the mouldings run from the base of the pier all round, without any capital. Those on the south side are very much out of the perpendicular ; whether they were originally built so or not seems to be a matter of dispute ; they show no signs of giving way at the base, and the tie beams kept them secure at the top.

The font is Norman, very plain ; it was removed from the west end to its present place in 1875. The shaft was lengthened, and the step or stone platform was added.

The chancel arch shows the transition style from the Norman to the Early English. In the restoration of this arch there was some deviation from the original : the shafts on the south side were much shorter, and although at the time I was an advocate for the alteration I have regretted it ever since. Doubtless there was a rood-loft, as the place in the wall over the pulpit shows. Underneath it was an oak screen, but as this did not fit the arch after the restoration and there being no funds for enlarging it, it was removed to the tower arch, where it now stands. The chancel is the property of the ecclesiastical commissioners, and was restored by them at the same time as the nave, 1871. Here again we have a different style to the nave. The windows belong to an earlier period—the Decorated. On the north side there is a pretty little triple lancet window, and the tracery of the window over the sedilia is very perfect and good.

The sedilia, piscina, and credence shelf, far surpass those generally met with in country churches.

The brackets on the walls are preserved; on these, lamps or lights were formerly placed and kept burning in honour of some saint.

In restoring this part of the church the walls were found painted with different designs and figures of saints, but these were too much mutilated to make anything of them.

The vestry room or that which is now used for it, was, I have been told, called the Holy Sepulchre, where at Easter certain rites commemorative of our Lord, were anciently performed with great solemnity. On Good Friday the crucifix and host and altar furniture were deposited here, and watched the following day and nights, and early on Easter morning they were removed with great ceremony and replaced on the altar by the priest. In some churchwardens' accounts of the 15th and 16th centuries, notices of payments are made for watching the sepulchre at Easter.

The north aisle is a fair specimen of what the church was previous to the restorations of 1871 and 1875. The windows are of the debased English style. One peculiar feature of this church is the stone sitting all the way round it.

We have also the poor man's box, *i.e.*, a strong chest with three locks, and a hole in the lid. This was ordered to be set up and fastened near the high altar, for alms and fines, out of which the poor were maintained. In the reign of Elizabeth there was a canon (1571) that if any child ten years old did not know the Catechism, his or her parents should put ten shillings into the poor box.

The brass on the wall by the north door is erected to Sarah, wife of Walter Kemish, and family; date, 1621. There are no monuments of any family remaining, and the only other memorial of note is the arms of Berkeley on one of the windows in the north aisle.

The oldest gravestone in or about the church, with any date,

is that of W. Godwin, of Wookham (a farm in this parish), buried 1584, aged 95. The cup in use every Sunday is over 300 years old, bearing date 1575.

Mr. SLOPER suggested that the singular slanting wall and hagioscope which had been enlarged into a doorway, were so made to give an approach to the sepulchre without entering the chancel.

Mr. GREEN said that in a survey of the time of Edward VI, the vicarage was returned as worth £12, and the "partakers of the Lord's Holy Sooper 300 persons."

Portbury Camp, just above the Priory, was omitted, but Mr. SCARTH said there had once been a fort there which originally protected the entrance to the river. There was a single ditch and a vallum running round it which could be distinctly traced though broken through and defaced in many parts. It was an irregular earthwork, not so well formed as Cadbury, but was no doubt sufficiently strong for the simple defence needed. He thought it was occupied by the Romans, but it was doubtful whether the Romans constructed it at first. It did not look like their work.

A drive was made direct for Portishead Church, where Mr. GREEN pointed out its various styles of architecture.

Dr. LIONEL WEATHERLY then called attention to the porch, where there was another example of the steps or stairs in the wall once leading to a gallery, now gone. The niche formerly above it had been removed into the left wall of the porch when the wall over the doorway was drawn to form the small organ loft. He also drew attention to the east window, the stone pulpit, and to the Norman font, now disused, which had formerly been buried in a garden.

The Manor House was then viewed from the outside, Mr. GREEN explaining that it was of the time of Henry VIII, the towers probably Elizabethan. He did not bring them there to find anything worth copying, none of these old things were so, but a knowledge of them enabled us to realise the

habits of our ancestors, and also to realise how uncomfortable they must often have been. As the party left, Mr. Green mentioned the important position of Portishead in the river defence of Bristol. During the Civil War there was a fort here which was held for the King but which was taken by the Clubmen for the Parliament in August, 1645. A little before this, about the middle of July, a rather curious incident occurred, when 600 Irish landed to act for the King. This attempt of the King to bring in such aid did not suit the English of either party, so Royalists and Roundheads rose united against them, drove them off and compelled them to get away by Pill. It was resolved that no others should land again, a resolution which could be kept as after the fall of the fort Kingroad was guarded by five or six ships, several of the King's transports on their way to Bristol being taken by these unexpected visitors.

Portishead Quarries.

On account of the rain these were not visited ; but, speaking at Portbury, sheltered by the Priory roof, the

Rev. H. H. WINWOOD said that in obedience to the request of their Secretary he had put a few notes together on the geology of the district through which the Members had lately passed, with especial reference to the Portishead quarries. He had hoped to have taken the Members to the quarries themselves, but the extremely unfavourable state of the weather prevented this, and he thought they would prefer remaining where they were at present under shelter, whilst he briefly described the general physical features of the country around. Having spoken of the Coal basin of Gloucester and Somerset and described its form and boundaries, he said they must not expect to find true coal beds spread throughout the whole of this basin, for owing to the irregularities of the surface and the crumplings which the crust of the earth had gone through since the deposition of these beds, the coal only lies in certain depressions or troughs. It was then on the

westerly rim of one of these, the Clapton in Gordano trough, that they were standing. Describing this ridge as extending in a N.E. and S.W. direction from Battery point at Portishead to Clevedon, a distance of about six miles in a bee line, it would be found on looking at the geological map before them that the Mountain Limestone beds assume the form of the letter V, with the sharp base turned toward the S.W. The features of this ridge were very similar to those of the Mendip Hills—a saddle back of Old Red Sandstone runs from one end to the other, terminating in Leedy or Lady Bay. From this back bone the Carboniferous Limestone dips away towards the centre of the trough in an E. and S.E. direction. The New Red Marl and Alluvium form the low lying grounds, with a patch of Coal beds proper occurring here and there, but not of sufficient commercial value to pay for the working, being so much disturbed, tilted up and dislocated. A boring had been made near Clapton Farm (no doubt well known to their President), with the details of the section however he would not trouble them. Two small patches of these measures may be seen at the most N.E. point dipping towards the Channel and probably extending beneath it, thus connecting this basin with the much larger basin of S. Wales on the opposite side. Fringing and overlapping the Old Red Sandstone all along its western margin, and likewise the Carboniferous Limestone on the east is an old beach deposit of the Keuper age, called the Dolomitic Conglomerate. Rarely exceeding 30 feet in thickness, it varies in texture, composed in some places of very coarse fragments of the older rocks on which it rests, in others passing into a fine grained rock, making good building stone as at Clevedon, where it forms the so-called Magnesian Limestone. Having made some further remarks on the divisions of the Old Red Sandstone, with especial allusion to the section on the beach, from which within the last few days whilst preparing these notes with his son, the latter had been fortunate enough to find a portion of *Holoptychius* bone; he

concluded by reminding the Members that the map hung up to illustrate these notes was made by the late Mr. Saunders, who worked at it for many years with masterly skill and indomitable energy. The first geological map of the district it had remained ever since correct in its main outlines, notwithstanding the labours of numerous geologists who have since worked over the same ground. Of this eminent geologist they might well feel proud.

The last visit marked on the programme was Weston in Gordano. In the porch is another of the galleries already noted in other churches, but this the most interesting as the original actually exists *in situ*, although like the others evidently erected after the door was built, as it cuts off the top of the arch. In the church Mr. GREEN observed that the door to the rood loft still remained, and he called attention to the curious low stone pulpit in the south wall or angle of the tower.

The Perceval monument and the ironwork round it were critically examined, the latter being good although modern. This monument is remarkable for the late French inscription which it bears. This reads:—

Cy. gysie. le. corps. de. Rycharde. Percybale.

le. quel. morut. l'an. de. boinet. Jesus. mcccclxxxiii.

Dieu. ay pitié. de. son. ame.

Mr. GREEN mentioned that Rutter records two visits here of Charles II, but he gave no authority, nor could he find any, for the statement. The King being at Bath with the Queen in 1663, visited Bristol, but returned to Bath the same day.

The PRESIDENT, standing in the porch, said they had now come to the end of their meeting. He was sorry the weather that day had been so very unfavourable, for otherwise they would have had a very pleasant excursion. Under the circumstances, they had got on uncommonly well.

Bishop CLIFFORD proposed a vote of thanks to the Pre-

sident for the manner in which he had presided and conducted the excursions, and this having been heartily accorded,

The PRESIDENT briefly responded, expressing the pleasure it had given him to take part in their meetings, and referring to the great assistance which had been rendered him by Mr. Green.

Mr. GREEN then proposed a vote of thanks to the Local Committee, coupled with the names of Messrs. Braikenridge and Ford, who responded merrily, both speaking at the same time.

“The Ladies” were next honoured, the PRESIDENT, “as a bachelor for the day,” responding; the party, all well pleased, then drove to Clevedon, which was reached about six o’clock.

Hidall Chantry in Clevedon.

This Chantry is mentioned as early as 25th Ed. I, 1297. (Close Rolls, 25th Ed. I, Mem. 22 dors, line 26, *b.*) It was dedicated to St. Nicholas and was in the gift of the Clevedons. (Wells Registers.)

Note. The autographs attached to the *fac-simile*, p. 35, part ii., are—

Thomas Poulet	George Speke	Jo Stawell
Morris Barkeley	Henry Portman	Georg Norton
John Wadham	Chrystoffer Kenne	Humfry Walrond
George Sydenham	Edward Popham	John Bret
Thomas Payne	John Colles	Willm Bowerman
John Sydenham		John Kaynes
Wylliam Hyll		

The Local Museum.

A large collection of remains found among the refuse of the Roman lead workings at Charterhouse-on-Mendip, including silver and bronze coins ; impressions of seals ; weights, fibulæ, tweezers, pins, rings, bracelets, keys, spoons, a bell, a mask, and a figure, in bronze ; some pieces of Samian ware and other pottery ; lamp, terra-cotta figure, beads ; and a piece of coarse pottery showing the leaden rivet with which it had been repaired : by Mr. RODGER, of The Willoughbys, Blagdon.

Portions of several querns, Roman coins and pottery found at Tickenham Hill : by Mr. GEO. LEE.

Collinson's *History of Somerset*, interleaved with drawings and prints, forming nine folio volumes ; portfolio of Somerset drawings and prints ; Somerset maps, arms, and seals : by Mr. W. J. BRAIKENRIDGE.

Buck's View of Bristol, 1722 ; engravings of Diana Swan and Sylvia the maid of the Haystack ; stone weapons from Ireland and Amiens : by Rev. J. W. HARDMAN, LL.D.

Earliest Map of the Severn or Bristol Channel, by Capt. Collins, 1693 : by Mr. W. GEORGE.

Piece of Bristol ware : by Mrs. FOGATY.

Rapier from Nailsea Court : by Miss WILCOX.

Specimens of the "Clevedon Sunflower Pottery" made at Clevedon : by Mr. ELTON, the President.

Portrait of Lady Katherine Wyndham : by Rev. H. TRIPP.

Sword of Hyder Ali, with fine jade handle, presented by the Marquis of Wellesley to Col. Brooke, 1805 : by the Rev. S. P. JOSE.

Sculptures from the ruins of a Buddhist Temple at Gya in Bengal : by Mrs. CLOËTE.

The Library.

ADDITIONS SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST VOLUME :

The Archæological Journal.

Journal of the British Archæological Association.

Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy.

Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland.

Montgomeryshire Collections, vol. xv.

Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society.

Surrey Archæological Collections, vol. viii. p. 1.

Transactions of the Watford Natural History Society.

Proceedings of the Geologists' Association.

Transactions of the Epping Forest and County of Essex Naturalists' Field Club.

Journal of the Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society, vol. iv.

Eyton's *Domesday Studies of Somerset*, 2 vols. (*purchased*).

Buckland's *Geology*, 2 vols. (*purchased*).

Book of Photographs of the Neighbourhood of Taunton, by
MESSRS. FRITH AND SONS.

Collier's *Ecclesiastical History of Great Britain*, 2 vols., folio,
by Mr. G. KEEN.

Gloucestershire Notes and Queries, Nos. 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14,
by Rev. B. H. BLACKER.

Somersetshire Worthies, by the author, Mr. E. T. D. FOX-
CROFT.

An Inquisition of the Manors of Glastonbury Abbey, 1189,
by the MARQUIS OF BATH.

Through America, by the author, Mr. W. G. MARSHALL.

Boyer's *French Dictionary* ; Ainsworth's *Latin Dictionary* ; Camden's *Britannia*, ed. Gibson, 1695 ; by Mr. SURTEES.

Norman Architecture, and *Gundulph, Bishop of Rochester*, by the author, Mr. F. R. SURTEES.

The Sculptured Monuments of the 15th Century in the Church of St. Dubricius, Porlock, Somerset, by the author, Mrs. HALLIDAY.

Chaffers's *Hall-marks on Plate* ; Mawe's *Treatise on Diamonds* ; Emanuel's *Diamonds and Precious Stones* ; and Jeffries' *Treatise on Diamonds and Pearls* ; (purchased).

The Museum.

ADDITIONS SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST VOLUME :

A shilling of James I and a crown piece of George III, by Mr. MARK JACOBS.

Various seeds from Jamaica, by Mr. RICHARD BRUFORD.

A stone pendant from New Zealand, by Mr. CULLEN.

Half-crown of Charles II and a piece of old tapestry, by Miss BOITE.

Two silver "Apostle" spoons, 1579 and 1601, by Mr. THOS. ARTHUR.

A crown piece of Queen Anne, by the Misses FOSTER.

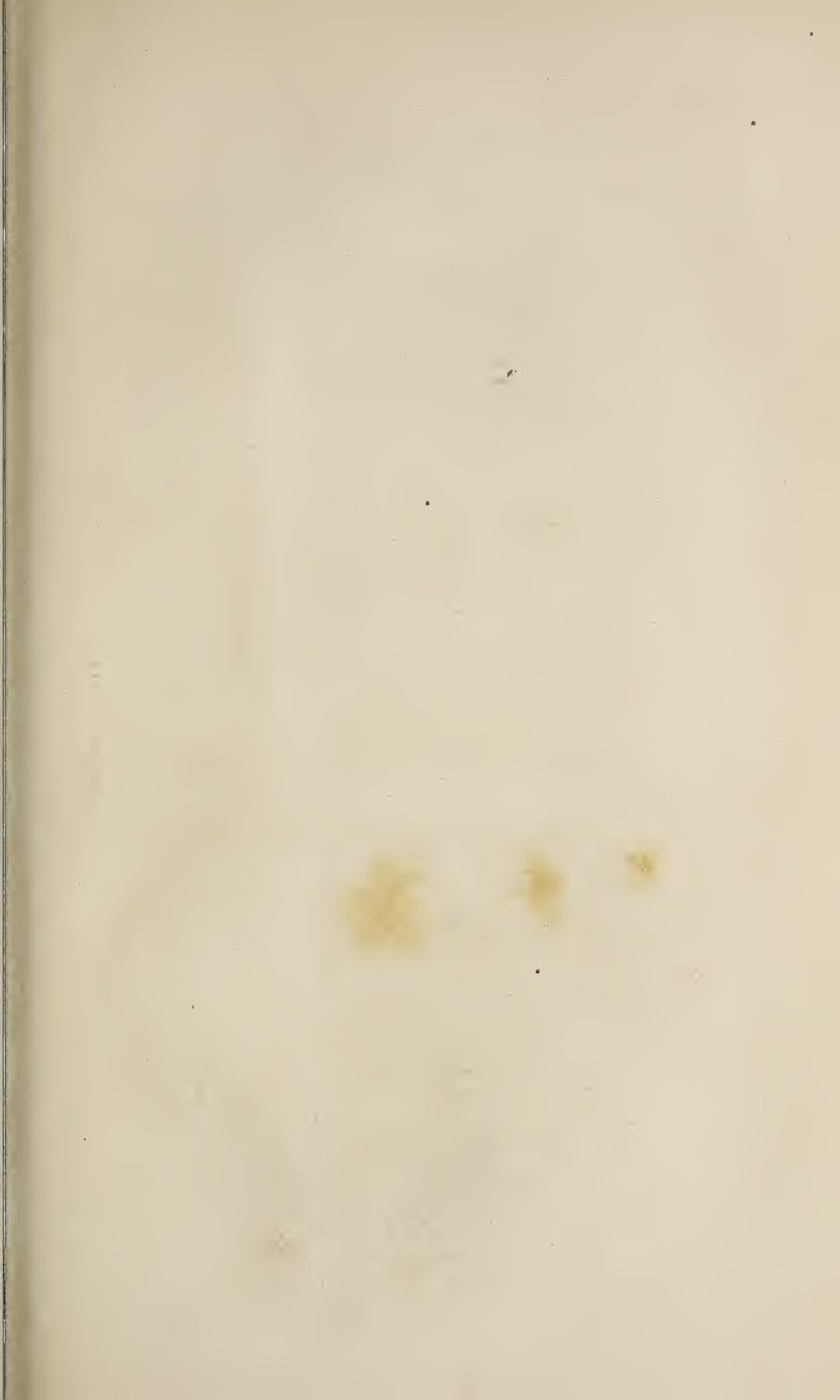
A Liverpool tile ; an "American currency" coin 1776 ; twelve French Revolution medals ; and a large painting of the "Death of Buddha," from a Japanese temple, by Mr. SURTEES.

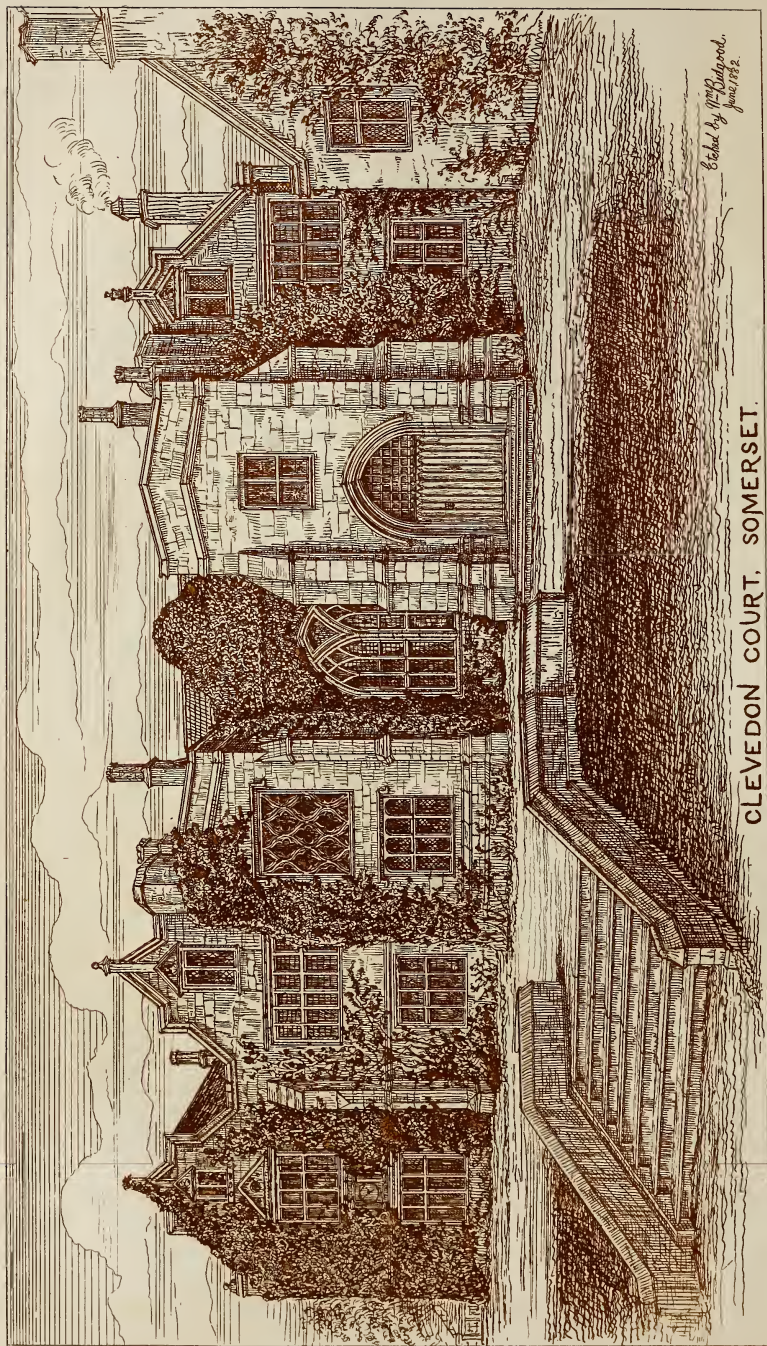
Four silver pennies of Henry III, and a half-crown of Charles I, (purchased).

THE CORONATION OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

This grand picture, 6 ft. 6 in. by 8 ft. 6 in., painted by John Martin in 1839, representing the interior of Westminster Abbey on the occasion of the Coronation of Queen Victoria, has been presented to the Society's Museum in Taunton Castle by Miss M. E. ATHERSTONE, daughter of Edwin Atherstone the poet, who resided some fifty years ago in a house (now the property of the Society) adjoining the Castle, where he was visited by the artist.







Engraved by Wm. Pugh,
June 1852.

CLEVEDON COURT, SOMERSET.

Proceedings
of the
Somersetshire Archæological and
Natural History Society,
1881, *Part II.*

PAPERS, ETC.

Clevedon Court.

BY SIR ARTHUR HALLAM ELTON, BART.

LET us suppose ourselves to be standing in front of Clevedon Court. It is not difficult to grasp its character. Someone has described a Cathedral as a "frozen poem." The same idea would apply to Clevedon Court, only "frozen" sounds too cold a word. The Court, like many other old mansions, has, as it were, grown of itself. It has been enlarged, and it has been ill-used; it has been, in short, considerably knocked about, and yet it has taken all quietly and pleasantly. It gathers up all reasonable additions; and cold and grim as they may at first appear, time does wonders, and what threatened to do hurt, ends in bringing a new development of beauty. Just let us glance at the front elevation; it is well known to many. The two Elizabethan gables on the west; the old Tower or Turret next to those gables; the projecting rooms, in the upper one of which you can see the tracery of the square window; the broad recess overlooked by the Hall window; the Entrance.

Porch ; the beautiful Elizabethan gable adjoining ; then the old Kitchen, covered with the pomegranate. The last was evidently placed at a moderate angle from the Elizabethan gable, in order that the inmates might keep watch, when necessary, over the Entrance Porch. Somewhat to the rear of the Kitchen there stands out a strongly-built and weather beaten Tower, facing to south and east. The Elizabethan gables which I have mentioned are ornamented with faces cut in stone. I do not pretend to explain those on the two gables towards the west end of the front. One of them appears to be meant for a savage. But in the gable between the Porch and the Kitchen, I would suggest that the female figure with a conspicuous ruff is intended to represent Queen Elizabeth. On the summit of this gable there is seated a bear, cut in stone, with, as I believe, remains of the ragged staff—one of the well known crests of the Earls of Warwick. I find in copies of documents obtained from the British Museum some years ago, that in the 38th year of Henry VI, Thomas Wake held at his death the Manor of Clevedon, of Richard, Earl of Warwick. Generally, I find the Wakes under the Honour of Gloucester ; but the above reference shows that there was, or had been, some connection between the manor and the Earls of Warwick.

We now enter the Court through the Entrance Porch. Here you must take notice of the old grooves for the portcullis on each side of the doorway. On the right, close to the fine 14th century doorway, you can ascend the Tower or Turret, by means of the steep old stone steps. You will bear in mind that there are four turrets ; three of them at or near the old projecting Porches of the Court ; the fourth has suffered from changes difficult to identify. At the top of the stairs you can step out on the lead roof, from whence you obtain a far off view of the Mendips and intervening lands, and below, the gardens of the Court. On the left there is a fine Spanish chestnut ; whilst a Scotch fir that has suffered from the gales and a grand Plane tree, like veteran soldiers keep guard over the gate of

entrance to the grounds. The *Taxodium*, the graceful *Excelsa*, and the *Pinus Insignis* with its rich green foliage, and two ancient mulberry trees, point the way to the wide-spreading lofty elm near the end of the west lawn. The four Towers to which I referred were, of course, originally much more prominent to the eye in the ancient days, before the large extension of the Court House by the Wakes, and, I must add, the mild intrusion of roses, myrtles, and evergreen shrubs, threw them somewhat into the back ground. We have, however, lately laid open many parts of the south front, which were hidden from view by the indefatigable ivy and waving branches of laurel. I remember, some time ago, discovering that the ivy, with great impropriety, had effected an entrance into the inside of the Porch, and was apparently making up its mind to take entire possession of it.

You now descend, and enter the 14th century doorway, fronting the Porch, and will notice on the right the three doorways which stamp the date of this part of the Court. On the left is the entrance into the Great Hall, screened off by a thin wall. Turning into the first of these doorways, there is a small room, called the Justice Room. Part of the walls of this room must be as old as the doorway leading into it. The picturesque Elizabethan gable front, facing the south, was the work of the Wakes, but I should suppose that some building must have previously connected the entrance doorway of the Justice Room with the Kitchen or other offices. The centre and largest of the three doorways was originally the main entrance to the offices, but is now the approach to an oak staircase leading to the "Minstrel Gallery," which looks into the Great Hall. The third doorway is the one that communicates with the offices, including the Kitchen and bedroom over. In passing to the Kitchen you cross a triangular space, over which is a large skylight. This space was formerly open to the air, and I believe was used, when occasion required, as a brewhouse. The present Kitchen—though lofty, and tolerably spacious—is

only a part of the original one. In the first place, the ancient Kitchen reached from the ground to the roof; whereas its height has been now reduced by the introduction of servants' bedrooms into the upper part. Again, the old Kitchen extended from the front, looking south-west, to the massive wall on the north side of the present housekeeper's room. Over this room there are also two stories of bedrooms for servants, so that the height of the room named is much below that of the present Kitchen. An old doorway, of a similar character to the three doorways, only less ornate, led in the olden time at once into the great Kitchen of mediæval days. To understand what that Kitchen really was, you must imagine the whole of the modern ceilings, joists, rafters, manifold partitions and staircases to be swept clean away, and the high-pitched roof of the Kitchen laid bare from south to north, and west to east. Some years ago we had the satisfaction of removing an awkward and unsightly deal staircase from its position within the original site of the Kitchen, and putting an oak staircase instead of it, outside of the old wall.

I would, in passing, suggest a glance at the now closed up doorway of the Scullery. The windows of this Scullery, looking into the triangular space, are Elizabethan; but one would like to know whether the door, referred to above, may not be of an earlier date.

Returning to the three doorways opposite the screen, you can mount the oak staircase on the left, and enter the Minstrels' Gallery, from whence the Great Hall is seen to good effect. The Porch room is at the south end of the gallery. The two-light window in this room has, some time or other, been injured, and not well repaired. Looking at it from the outside, there are some indications that this window was originally one of the De Clevedon period, with an arch over it. Yet it would seem that such a window over the main entrance, and in the chamber where the Portcullis was lowered or drawn up, would have been unsuitable. Buckler, in his engraving of Clevedon

Court in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1834, boldly makes this window, as shown in his sketch, a Decorated arched window. But, unfortunately for Buckler, there exists in what is called the Brown Hall, an oil painting, of about the time of Queen Anne. In this painting the Porch room window over the entrance door is clearly represented, and this window has no arch, but a plain, square head. The corresponding window in the north Porch room at the back of the Court is Elizabethan. This room communicates, by a flight of stone steps, with the Entrance Porch at the back of the Court. The stone steps formed part of the second Tower of the Court, but the upper part of the Tower has at some time or other been taken down. The steps do not ascend higher than the level of the north Porch room, but they are more in use than any of the steps in the other Towers. Looking out from the windows at the back, the view, especially in summer time, is charming. The gentle slopes of the garden, bright with flowers, lead up to successive terraces, with roses, clematis, escallonias, ceanothus, passion flowers, and other climbing plants; whilst directly above, the waving woods rise higher and higher to the summit of the hill, which, not long ago, was little better than a "sheep run."

It is now time to descend to the Great Hall. This Hall has suffered somewhat in the same way as the Kitchen. A flat roof, comparatively modern, has stunted its beauty. The space above the ceilings is however unoccupied, except, I must confess, by bats, harmless at all times unless you have the temerity to venture into their airy home with a lighted candle. Of course there is a natural desire to throw open the Hall to the roof, but it is feared we might, when too late, regret the change from a warm room to a cold one. At each gable, above the flat ceiling, there are two interesting windows of a kind which I should suppose may be unusual. They carry us back to the time when chimneys were scarce, and smoke abundant. You will observe, however, in the arch of

these ancient windows, apertures by means of which the smoke was tempted to escape into chimneys or flues which, after 400 years, still stand at the gable ends of the roof of the Hall. I may add that there are unmistakeable marks of smoke in the opening connected with the flues above. One feels some doubt whether the old Hall was altogether saved from the nuisance of smoke, especially in stormy weather, but in favourable times the smoke certainly might rise into the higher regions and find its way out. The fire place in those days was of course in or near the middle of the Hall. The windows below the present ceiling would have been narrow apertures; those now in the Hall belong to the Elizabethan period. Touching, however, the large arch over the window in the south, I must admit that this was not an idea of the Wakes, but of my grandfather, the Rev. Sir Abraham Elton. It was deemed a great advantage in point of light, and, I think, in the opinion of Sir Abraham, in respect also of architectural beauty. But I remember a friend kindly consoling me by saying that "there was not much harm done," or words to that effect. I ought to add that there is a window looking into the Hall from the "Lady's Bower," which is a genuine 14th century window. The room at the south-west angle of the Hall closely corresponds with the front Entrance Porch, and jutting out boldly beyond the Hall, with the ancient Decorated window above it, contributes greatly to the beauty of the south elevation of the Court.

Over the doorway leading to this room, now an Oratory, you can detect the form of the 14th century arch, which certainly ought to be restored. Returning to the Hall another doorway is opposite to you. This is a doorway also of the time of the De Clevedons, and close to it on your left hand there is a richly carved Elizabethan doorway of stone, painted a dark oak colour. Going through this doorway you find yourself in a good-sized passage, leading to the west front of the Court. It has an oak floor, and, like the Hall, is wainscoted with oak

panels on each wall. On the left hand is the doorway into the Library, which, however, I believe was in the first instance used as a dining room. The stone doorway, through which you enter this interesting room, was laid open a few years ago; it had been covered up by plaster and wainscoting. Some seem to speak of this room as if it had been entirely built by the Wakes, but although the Elizabethan window, the mantelpiece, the doorway, and some other needful work, was their doing, I believe that buildings must have existed here as far back as the time of the Edwards, when the "Lady's Bower" was first constructed. The only ingress and egress to and from the Lady's Bower must have been through the room called the Red Room, exactly above the Library, and of course this involves a roof over it. The Red Room was the Solar or Lord's Chamber. As for the room under, probably it might have been used as a cellar or store house. In 1872 I ventured to undertake the serious task of shifting all my books in the Library, and also all the shelves, in order to fix new bookcases. I found the walls behind the bookcases were wainscoted about five feet high, but the old walls behind and above the wainscot were very rough. Whilst making my researches in the empty room I came upon a small window which looked into the oak passage outside. It had been plastered up. It was a window with a square head of Bath stone, and jambs and sill of the same material. It did not appear to have been long in use, but we could gain no information on the subject. The oldest man in my employ said he remembered the Library having been used as dining room, but as for the window he had never seen nor heard of it. Judging from the fresh look of the freestone, the Wakes could not have used the window long, but must from some reason or other have closed it up. I placed stained glass in it, with the portrait of one of the best men of the Elizabethan age, Sir Philip Sidney, whose introduction will I am sure not be displeasing to the shade of Sir John Wake.

The Library mantel-piece well repays attention. The Wake knot circles along the frieze, from one side of the centre-piece to the other; above are the arms and initials of I.W., *i.e.*, John Wake. There are various figures and curious devices. Again in the Elizabethan window at the end of the room, in the two centre panes above the transom, there are two lozenge-shaped insertions; one with the Wake knot, and underneath, the date 1570; the other contains the Wake motto, "Wake and Pray."

On Sir Charles Elton coming to reside here there was no communication between the Library and the present Oratory on the one side, and the Drawing Room on the other. It was considered a work of some danger to excavate as it were the interposing walls. The width of the wall into the Oratory is four feet, and that of the wall into the Drawing Room four feet six inches. The work was however safely executed. I once made a cautious attempt to ascertain if there was an opening into the Tower which stands at the corner of the present Oratory. We made some way, but found no sign of any recent work, and were rather glad to let it alone. The mortar in the wall had mouldered away into sand.

The Drawing Room possesses a very good Elizabethan window, looking south, which together with the window in the room over, was entirely blocked up when we came here. There is a legend that many years ago the room was so little appreciated that a pony was allowed to use it as a stable, and make himself comfortable there. I may safely dismiss this story as a libel both on my predecessors as well as on the pony. The mantel-piece in the Drawing Room is well designed and gracefully executed. It was probably placed there in the reign of William and Mary, by John, 3rd Earl of Bristol, to whom the Mansion and Manor of Clevedon had passed, from the Wakes, whose generous sacrifices in aid of the cause of Charles I, had greatly reduced their income. It may be well to add that the Earl of Bristol died on September 18, 1698,

having in his will given directions to his wife, the Lady Rachel, to sell the whole of the Clevedon estate, which directions were accordingly carried out. In 1709 Mr. Abraham Elton [afterwards Sir Abraham Elton, Bart.], a wealthy merchant of Bristol, purchased the estate, and added to it other land.

We have now reached the west end of the Court, and I must say a few words as to the history of this part of the building. In the old oil picture, already mentioned, the west elevation is very slightly shown, but the character of the windows must have corresponded with those of the style of Queen Anne in the north front of the Court, now reduced in number to only two or three. Sometime, however, about the year 1767, Sir Abraham Isaac Elton, the fourth baronet, dissatisfied with the simplicity of the west front, finally resolved to pull it down, and put up another which should harmonize better with the ancient portions of the Court. Sir Abraham accordingly set to work, and after pulling down the old front, built up a façade which was chiefly remarkable for lilliputian battlements, and windows awkward to open, surmounted by ogee arches of a feeble type.

Sir Abraham Isaac Elton was a man of known ability and sound discretion; but it would have taxed even wiser heads than his to construct a west front suitable for the taste of the period, and yet possessing a faint flavour of mediæval times. Sir Abraham Isaac therefore failed; but as he was never himself conscious of it, his peace of mind was not disturbed.

With the careful assistance of Mr. Charles Davis, of Bath, in the year 1862, a large portion of the west front was removed, and the whole of it either rebuilt or altered. The object of Mr. Davis and myself was to avoid anything like an attempt to vie with the old mansion. The Dining Room, which is opposite the Drawing Room, has undergone several alterations, from time to time.

There are mysterious stories of human bones found in the gardens, and perhaps our excellent President may kindly

throw the exciting circumstances into a tale, for the benefit of the next Archæological Meeting.

Proceeding up stairs, we reach the Red Room, and from thence enter the Lady's Bower. You can here examine the beautiful flowing tracery of the square-headed window of the Decorated period, looking over the front gardens. The small two-light window, with decorated arch opposite has been already noticed. It was rescued from oblivion a good while ago, if I am not mistaken, by Lady Elton, the wife of the Rev. Sir Abraham Elton. We have put stained glass into it, and the grand riticulated window calls for the same dutiful attention, which we hope may not be long delayed. From this small window it is pleasant to look down upon the Hall. Here "the Lady" of old from time to time cautiously watched the maidens at work beneath, or took note of any unwelcome or forbidden visitor. On the right of the square window there is a strong door, which leads by the stone steps from the Lady's Bower to the lead roof above. The ceiling of this room is covered with old oak; probably similar to that which once gave additional beauty to the roof of the Hall.

This is the third Tower we have seen. On returning through the Red Room to the passage, there is a comfortable room opposite, called the Oak Room. It has the reputation of being haunted. The ghost is said to be a cobbler; not at all an interesting visitant. The room over the Oak Room is a small one, and the entrance to it is built up. We do not intend to open it, as it is possible we might find nothing there; and the cobbler might be affronted, and leave the Court destitute even of the ghost of a cobbler.

At the end of the same passage there is another flight of stone steps leading to a small room above. It formed part of the fourth Tower, but has been a good deal injured. You must now turn down some steps, where looking back you will see a doorway of the De Clevedon period. This doorway has an interest. It was long hidden from sight, like other treasures

of the same period, but was discovered at last, and when discovered it was found that there were remains of ivy clinging to the outer side. I believe, therefore, that the doorway led to stairs, now removed, which were open to the sky as was common in mediæval times, and that this staircase partly occupied the site of the present Queen Anne staircase.

Down this staircase of Anne, which still possesses a window of about the same date, you can descend into the Hall, and rest yourself after what, I fear, may have been a somewhat tedious perambulation.

A few Notes on Yatton Church.

BY REV. J. W. HARDMAN, LL.D.

THE prebendal church of St. Mary the Virgin, Yatton, was (and still I believe is) a “peculiar” in the Diocese of Wells.

It is a large cruciform structure, with central tower and unfinished spire. There was existing here some years ago a portion of a Norman font, now buried underground; but there are no other traces left of any early ecclesiastical structure, though the existence of two springs, called respectively “Bishop’s Well” and “Holy Well,” point to the primitive evangelization of the locality.

Of the present building, four different periods may be distinguished: the earliest, the arch between north aisle of nave and north transept, Early English; the tower arches and south transept window of Decorated period; the chancel, early Perpendicular; and the nave and porch, which are very fine specimens of late Perpendicular of the Somerset type.

The south transept contains a window of flowing or curvilinear tracery, of a type which, curious to say, is very common in the south and west of Ireland. The two transepts, and the chapel at north side of the chancel, were respectively dedicated to St. Katharine, St. John the Evangelist, and St. James. The two latter chapels were built by the Newton family, who held the manor of Court de Wyck.

There are in the church five stone staircases. The hagioscopes should be observed; but one is closed. There was once a rood-screen, which stretched across the east end of the nave, and certainly across one of the aisles. The stairs to the rood-loft still remain, also some of the supports, one being curiously carved with the bent figure of a monk. The rood-screen, of

which one small fragment of the foliage was recently found, was adorned with 70 carved figures, which were erected in the year A.D. 1455, and cost £3 10s. 4d. In 1448 the rood-cross was set up with a canopy.

In the Court de Wyck chapel, or north transept, are two recessed tombs, one containing an effigy of a female, the other of a civilian; but in the centre is a far more interesting tomb, as it can be identified as that of Sir Richard Newton, chief-justice of the common pleas, who died about 1448. He is in full legal costume, with coif, and purse to contain the seal, and wears the collar of SS. His wife's figure, Ennota de Sherborne, is well worthy of attention for her elegant costume and the beauty of her jewellery. This monument is recorded in the Parliamentary Blue Book on "Ancient Sepulchral Monuments." The original name of the Newton family was "Cradoc," but Sir Richard assumed the name of Newton. He took the position of Serjeant-at-law in 1424, 3rd year of King Henry VI; in 1426 he acted as judge on circuit in Pembrokeshire; in 1430 he was chosen Recorder of Bristol; on Nov. 8th, 1438, he was appointed Judge of Common Pleas, and presided there for nearly nine years. The effigies are carved in alabaster, and were painted and gilded.

In the angle between the north transept and the chancel is a beautiful chapel, erected by the Newton family, and dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. Here is an interesting piscina, marking it as a chantry chapel, with a beautiful and highly enriched tomb; it has on it the effigies of Sir John Newton (the son of the Justice, Sir Richard) and his wife, Isabel de Cheddre. He wears the collar of SS., is in plate armour, and has not only a sword but also a dagger or knife arranged in the same sheath. Behind the figures is a curious bas-relief of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary—the lily in the vase is the Virgin's emblem; whilst near the angel is the scroll containing the angelic salutation. The Holy Ghost descends as a dove. Beside the kneeling figure of the Virgin is a

remarkable desk, formed cleverly to revolve, and yet to be well balanced by the weight of the book.

The will of Sir John Newton was proved April 20, 1487. For his burial in the church of Yatton he bequeathed £6 8s. 8d. This good man also directed 20s. to be paid to his tailor in Bristol! The document ends thus:—"In witness that this is my effectual and last will, I have put hereto my seale in this Church of our Lady of Yatton."

His widow, Isabel, died in 1498 (Henry VII). She made her will on March 14, 1498, and ordered her executors "to find a well disposed Priest to sing for my soul within the Church of Yatton and the new Chapel of St. John during the space of 5 years." She also bequeathed money (6s. 8d.) for "the prisoners of Newgate in the town of Bristowe."

At the west end of the north aisle may be seen a series of carved corbels, representing a King (said to be Henry IV) and Queen, a Bishop and a Pope. The triple tiara can be remarked.

The Church expense books begin about 1448, and are very interesting. In 1534 the parish authorities paid 30s. for a "hole sewte of vestments with a cope;" in 1539 they laid out 8d. for making a chain for their "Bybull." There are also some particulars of the erection of a churchyard cross, of which the base only is left.

The sculpture under the gable probably represents the Holy Trinity. The weathering of the original gable of the nave was visible on the west face of the tower inside the church till the recent restoration.

The tower contains eight bells; the tenor has the inscription, "Miserecordias Domini in Eternum Cantabo." At his especial request, a poor man was buried under the tower, on account of his love for the sound of the bells.

The churchyard was consecrated in the year 1486, by Bishop Robert Stillington, at a cost of £4 6s. 8d.

Historical Sketch of St. Andrew's Church, Backwell.

BY REV. E. BURBIDGE, M.A.

IT would have been impossible for me to venture to read a paper on this subject in the presence of so many who know so much more of archæology than myself, if I had not had the advantage which can only be enjoyed by one on the spot, of gathering together the opinions of many leaders of opinion—both architects and archæologists—upon the building in which we are assembled. To them I am indebted for any amount of interest which the following pages may possess.

Following the usual division of the styles of architecture into Norman, Early English, Decorated, and Perpendicular, we may say that we have in this church fragments which tell of successive buildings or additions to an existing building on this site, in all the four periods in the history of architecture.

Remains of an ancient font under the tower, and of a roughly ornamented stone, built into the hagioscope in the north wall of the chancel, carry us back to the Norman period, and tell of the existence of a church here at least as early as the 12th century.

This must have fallen into decay and at some period, probably in the long reign of Henry III (1216–1272 A.D.), was replaced by a church in the Early English style, of which sufficient remains exist to enable us to form an idea of its dimensions. The most perfect of these remains are in the south wall of the chancel; of which the priest's door, the sedilia, and piscina are in good preservation. The Early English string-course may also be traced on the outside, being diverted to run over the later Perpendicular window. But

besides these more perfect remains, there are other parts which enable us to draw with some certainty the plan of the church as it stood in the 13th century, and lead to the conclusion that it was the same as at present, with the omission of the chancel chapels.

Starting from the priest's door on the south of the chancel, and going round the church towards the west, we find proofs that the south chancel chapel (the present organ chamber) is a later addition, partly from its being built into the door jamb, and partly because the moulding at the base differs from that which beginning at the buttress close to the window of this chapel, runs round the church. The buttress appears to have been cut down, and was no doubt at the end of the Early English aisle. The turret, containing the rood-loft staircase, was evidently not then in existence, but the lower mouldings of the buttress may after this be traced round to the porch, and then on to the west corner of the aisle, and they re-appear throughout the length of the north aisle on the opposite side. In addition to these mouldings the Early English windows may still be traced. The relieving arches over three of these appear on the outside of the south wall. The first, where the rood-loft staircase is (of this one stone may be seen on the east side of the turret); the second to the east of the porch between it and the present window (this window also clearly appears on the inside of the church); and the third over the doorway in the porch. A doubt would have been felt as to the length of the Early English aisles, if it had not been for the moulding before-mentioned, and for some evidence found in the labels over the west windows at the ends of both aisles. That on the south looks like an imitation of, and that on the north exactly corresponds with the label of, the apparently Early English (or possibly Decorated) window in the north aisle, which is now filled with stained glass, representing the Adoration of the Magi; leading to the conclusion that, if not at first, yet at some time during the 13th century (or possibly

the 14th) the length of the church was the same as now, and inviting us to conjecture an earlier tower, much on the same site as the present one.

The porch does not appear to have been built at the same time, but must have been added very shortly after upon not very secure foundations.

We come now to the Decorated period. The family of the Rodneys had long been in possession of one part of the parish, but by the beginning of Edward III's reign (1326 A.D.) they seem to have become owners of the two manors of Backwell, named from the ancient holders De Baiocis and Le Sore;¹ and at some time during the 14th century the Decorated canopy over the Rodney monument must have been erected, probably to the memory of Walter de Rodney who died 1342 (16 Edw. III), who may have been the first owner of the united manors; or to the memory of Sir John Rodeney, knight, who died 1400 (2 Hen. IV).

As we reach the Perpendicular period we find ourselves in that most fertile era of church restoration which reached its height when our country had entered upon its rest from the devastating wars of the Roses, with the accession of Henry VII in 1485. Great changes and additions were made in this church at various periods during the 15th century: possibly the earliest is that to which alone we can assign a known date,

(1). The earliest reference that I can find to the Rodney family as owners in Backwell is in *Inq. post mortem*, 16 Edward III (1342 A.D.):—"Walterus de Rodeneye pro Rado Bathon' et Wellens epo et pro priore et conventu de Worspyng—Backwell maner' (together with other manors) remanent eidem Waltero." But Collinson states that on the death of Bishop of Coutances, to whom William the Conqueror gave the place, it was divided into two portions, and one moiety, called Backwell Bayouse, was given to Walter de Rodney. A correspondent tells me that the Rodneys came into the parish in 4 Edw. I (1275 A.D.) by purchase from the ancient Norman family of Le Sore. Apparently this refers to obtaining possession of the second manor. In 1 Hen. V (1413 A.D.) is the first mention of the two portions of the property that I can find under Walter' Rodney, Chivaler, "Bacwell duæ partes manerii et advoc. eccliae," and the same expression occurs again 8 Hen. V (1420 A.D.), upon the death of Johes Rodeney, Chevaler; but it is not found repeated under later owners.

viz., the handsome tomb in the chancel, with recumbent figure of a knight, which, I am informed, may be identified by the coats of arms² as that of Sir Walter Rodney, who married Margaret, daughter of Walter Lord Hungerford, and died 1466 (6 Edw. IV).

By this time we must suppose that the Early English church of 200 years before had fallen into bad repair—who can say how?—perhaps by the fall of the spire from an earlier tower,³ and various works were accomplished by successive benefactors during the 15th and beginning of the 16th centuries. These may be thus enumerated: First and chief in importance was the rebuilding of the nave (the ancient arches apparently being replaced on higher pillars),⁴ the re-roofing of the aisles, and the addition of the chapels on either side of the choir. About the same time we may suppose the buttresses were built to strengthen the old Early English walls of the chancel, and at a somewhat later date the corner ones at the west end of the south aisle and at the entrance arch of the porch. The altered mouldings of the capitals of the three westernmost pillars on the south side of the nave lead us to suppose that this restoration was not wholly completed at one time, and the windows were evidently inserted at different dates, replacing the older ones with Perpendicular tracery, being gifts, as we may suppose (somewhat similarly to the stained glass windows of our own day), of various members of the Rodney and other families who were connected with the parish during this cen-

(2). In centre, Rodney; to right, Peveril and Hungerford; to left, Hungerford of Heytesbury and Fitz James. On west face, Bayhouse, ancient owner of one of the manors.

(3). There is a local tradition that the tower was once struck by lightning; but this probably refers to the present one, and will explain the apparently later character of the upper story, which bears marks of being less delicately executed than the rest of it.

(4). It has been supposed by some that the arches and pillars of the nave belonged originally to the Decorated period. The objection to this view is that it necessitates the supposition that the nave was twice rebuilt, since there are clear evidences of an Early English building in the points already specified, and in the corbels on which the roof of the south aisle rests.

ture.⁵ Lastly, we may suppose the work was crowned by the building of the tower, which is one of the ornaments of this county, so rich in noble towers.⁶

The following inscription may be clearly discerned with the aid of a glass upon the tower, on its west face, on the north side of the window of the ringing loft.

The Spid Ic bj

This is incorrectly given by Rutter in his *Delineations of Somerset*. It has been variously interpreted, but no satisfactory suggestion has yet come to my knowledge.

Some minor points of interest will be found in the following

(5). The following are known from *Inquis. post mortem* to have died possessed of property in the parish during this period:—Sir Walter Rodney, 1413; Sir John Rodney, 1420; Alicia, widow of Sir John Rodney who died 1400 (afterwards married to Sir Wm. Boneville), 1425; Isabella, Countess of Warrewyk, 1439; Henry de Bello Campo, Earl of Warrewyk, 1445; Sir Willelmus Zouch, 1468; Sir Thomas Rodney, 1469, and his widow Isabella (who afterwards married Wm. Pawlett), 1478.

(6). In the year 1502 (18 Henry VIII), on Monday in the week of Pentecost (Whit-Monday), a piece of land, containing one acre and a half arable and one styche pasture, was handed over to the parishioners of Backwell, their title dating back in a succession of deeds to 1349 (24 Edward III). In a lease of this land dated 1606, it is mentioned that it was held by the parishioners in trust "for the use of repairing and maintaining of the church of Backwell." And in another lease dated 1658, in which a cottage appears as added to the property, it is mentioned that "the premises" were given to the churchwardens for ever "by the will of Edmund Teynt, sometimes of Backwell deceased, for repairing and maintaining the said church." It has not been discovered who the donor of the land was, the names on the older deeds being those of which no record has been found. The property has continued to be handed on from one generation of the parishioners to the next to the present day. The following names appear on the deeds, 1349 A.D., Feoffment from John Badenam de Barwe to Robert de Lydeneye. Later in the same year, Robert de Lydeney of Claverham grants it to Richard le Hayward of Backwell. 1400 A.D., Feoffment from Richard le Hayward of Bacwelle to John Whytyng, junr. 1498 A.D., Feoffment from Rowland, son of John Whyting, deceased, to John Pastey and his heirs for ever. 1502 A.D., Feoffment from John Pastey de Flexbourton, husbandman, to Robert Feylond, John Voull, Wm. Crosse, and Wm. Edson, and their heirs for ever. After this date many names of each generation of parishioners occur.

adornments which may be assigned to about the same date :— the sanctus bell-cot; the rood-screen with its turret staircase, and the singularly beautiful, solitary, clerestory window to lighten it; and the two great niches, whose canopies were added to adorn the sanctuary on either side of a stone altarpiece, the remains of which (discovered at the time of the restoration) have been replaced by the present carving by Earp.

Two other points of much archæological interest remain: the vestry or cell on the north of the sanctuary, and the inscription over the chancel tomb.

1. Entering by a small Perpendicular doorway at the north end of the altar, we find ourselves in a small chamber, which has excited the curiosity of many. A small window, high up in the gable, leads to the conclusion that it formed a part of the Early English church. An examination of the outer wall shows that it was diminished in size by the insertion of the Rodney chapel between it and the chapel on the north of the choir: and it seems almost certain that the ancient piece of walling on which the hagnoscope from the Rodney chapel is formed was once a portion of this chamber, the present opening being either the ancient loop-hole through which its inmate shared in the services, or made up from the stones which once served as a window. The most probable explanation of the use of this chamber is that it was originally a cell in which an anchorite lived, as Dunstan did in more ancient times at Glastonbury. It may have belonged to an earlier building than the Early English chancel; for this side of the chancel is known to have been ruinous, and rebuilt some forty years ago; and at some time late in the Perpendicular period it was probably turned into a vestry or priest's chamber, by the addition of the late window, doorway, and quatrefoil opening. Another suggestion is, that it may have served for a lodging for the poor brother who used to be sent to perform the services by the master of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist at Redcliff Pit; to whom, in 1306, the bishop granted the rectory, and upon

whose presentation he admitted, in 1343, a vicar to the said church.⁷ As the wall between this chamber and the Rodney chapel does not appear to be in its original position, the remains of what looks like a fireplace in it do not necessarily touch upon its original purpose.

2. We come lastly to the inscription to the memory of Lady Elizabeth Chaworth, formerly the wife of Sir Walter Rodney, who was High Sheriff of Somerset, 1511, and died some time before 1526.

First, I would call attention to the good work done by a Bristol archæologist of a century ago (Mr. Henry Burgum), who, in 1770, presented a brass plate containing an explanation of what he considered to be a Saxon inscription, and thus preserved for us the name of this lady's second husband, which is now gone from the inscription. The inscription runs thus: "Within this chapell lyeth Elzabeth, the first founderys of this chapell, and of the floke of shepe to the quarter tymes; late [wife of Sr John Chaworth], Knight, and before that wife to Sr Walter Rodney, Knyght, and systyr to Sr Wyllyam Compton, Knyght, whyre Elzabeth departed the [3rd day of June], in the yere of grace MCCCCXXXVII."

(7). Collinson, *History of Somerset*. But there seems to be some error in these dates, as we find, *Inquis. post mortem*, 33rd Edward I (A.D. 1304): "Will'm de Burne pro Hospit. Sancti Johis Baptist de Bristol died possessed of 10 acr. terr' (in Backwell) et medietas Advocacionis Eccliæ ejusdem Villæ." This leads us to suppose that the hospital had some earlier connection with the church. From the Register of Bishop Drokenesford, at Wells, it appears that, in 1311, dominus Will'm de Pykeleslegh was admitted "ad parochialem eccl. de Bacwell vacantem per mortem Guidonis de Shemiden" (*written over*, "nuper institutus in eadem"), on the presentation of Lady La Soor "veræ patronæ ejusdem." Unfortunately some words in this entry, which might more fully explain the circumstances, appear at present undecipherable. And under date 1329 of the same Register it is recorded that Milo de Monyton was admitted and instituted Vicar, with mention of the Master, Brethren, and Sisters of the Hospital (apparently) as Patrons. After this I can find no entry, until, in 1430, Matthew Will'm Frome was instituted on the presentation of Lord Walter Hungerford de Heytesbury, but whether as Rector or Vicar does not appear. The grant of the Rectory to an ecclesiastic accounts for there being both a Rector and a Vicar of this parish, as continued to the present day, in addition to a lay-rector of later origin.

Secondly, there is, I am told by more than one kind correspondent, no question as to the meaning of the words "flope of shepe" and "quarter tymes." They refer to an endowment for the curate of the church (or for the chantry priest), who had the wool or its value in money at the Ember seasons, for his salary, in return for certain services.⁸

Thirdly, it is an interesting fact that we possess the remains of the tomb-stone of this Lady Elizabeth, which may be seen under the tower.

Fourthly, the great question remains as to the chapel, of which Lady Elizabeth was the first "founderys." There are two difficulties in the way. One, because, as the date of her death is 1537, and the architecture of the monument belongs, in part, to at least 150 years before, it appears more than strange how she could be the first foundress of a chapel, which has been taken to belong to the same date as the monument. The other, because the inscription is already too long for the position in which it is found; and, when it contained the words now lost, it must have been about one foot three inches longer still; which leads to the supposition that it belonged really to some other place, and referred to some altogether different chapel.

Is any solution possible, which will both unravel the intricacies of the monument, and make good the traditional interpretation of this lady's claim, as being the foundress of this chapel, with its almost unique roof of stone beams?

An outside view shows, as already stated, that this chapel is later than the buildings on either side of it. And as the label to the window overlooking its roof agrees with that of other of the Perpendicular windows, there seems no reason to doubt but that the chapel to the north of the choir belongs to the

(8). Extract of will of Earl Rivers, Feb. 20, 1490: "To the Parish Church of Grafton all such cattle as I now have at Grafton, viz., 2 oxen, 5 kine, and 2 bullocks, to the intent that they shall yearly keep an obit for my soul, viz., Dirige and Mass of requiem by the Curate, 4 priests, and 4 clerks, also a herse and 4 tapers, every priest taking for his wages 5d., and every clerk 3d." (*Vet Testam.*, 403.)

Perpendicular period. This brings us to fix a necessarily late date for the Rodney chapel. Moreover, the window and the doorway agree with the age of Lady Elizabeth. But then, the roof appears to belong to the Decorated canopy of the earlier memorial. How can this difficulty be evaded? Careful examination shows that parts of one rib only in the roof of the chapel are equally as elaborate in workmanship as the canopy outside of it; and after weighing a multitude of opinions, I am disposed to give this account of the whole matter. In the 14th century a recess was sunk in the chancel wall, and the canopy erected in memory of a Rodney—probably Walter de Rodney, who died 1342. In the 15th century a second memorial was erected to the memory of Sir Walter Rodney, who died 1466, grandfather (?) of the first husband of this Lady Elizabeth; and the tomb containing his effigy was partly recessed into the wall beneath the former monument. In the 16th century the Lady Elizabeth, in her grief at the early death of her husband, who died in his father's lifetime, founded and endowed the chapel, which was built (there is little doubt) in this way. The recess of the earliest monument was opened completely through the wall, and the wall of the ancient cell was removed further to the east, making room for the chapel as it is now; in which the style of the canopy was followed as far as possible in the ribs of the roof, though the masons failed exactly to copy the more elaborate earlier work. At the same time, the arched opening between the Rodney chapel and that to the west of it was either entirely made, or enlarged from a hagioscope which may possibly have existed before in connection with the canopied memorial, and a screen was placed in this opening. Upon the Lady Elizabeth's death the inscription, either by design or mistake, was made for this longer opening; and the panel, with the coats of arms—which, I am told, represent her marriages⁹—was probably intended to be placed,

(9). 1, Rodney. 2, Chaworth. 3, Rodney, Chaworth and Compton. 4, Compton. 5, Le Sor, the ancient owners of the manor.

together with the inscription (with which its moulding agrees), under this arch¹⁰—now utilised as a vestry cupboard. At some date the screen was replaced by the wall, which before the restoration of the church blocked up the whole opening. The screen was destroyed, or possibly removed to the back of the tomb, and fitted as at present into the older work. The Decorated canopy was cut to admit the panel, with its shields, and the inscription was introduced as best it might be. This may have been carried out by Mr. Rice Davis, who married a Rodney, and “re-edified this chapel”; he died in 1638, and was buried here, and a brass exists within the chapel to his memory. Repairs to the wall on the north side of the church some forty years ago may probably have occasioned the loss of the words from Lady Elizabeth’s inscription; and we can easily suppose that it was neatly put together again without them.

(10). This opening measures 9 feet 1 inch; the inscription, 8 feet 7½ inches, or, allowing for the words now lost, 9 feet 10 inches. The opening of the arch where the inscription is placed measures 7 feet 5 inches. So that, allowing for mouldings on either side over which the inscription might extend, there would probably be ample room for it at the longer arch. At the time of the restoration of the church by the late G. E. Street, R.A., in 1872, it was intended to open this arch down to the ground; but a weakness in the adjoining pier prevented this being done.

On the Levies in Somerset for service in Ireland,
1563-1583.

BY EMANUEL GREEN, (*Hon. Sec.*)

TOWARDS the end of February, 1558, one Sorley Boy (*i.e.*, Red man) Mc Donnell, "being merry wt drynk" in the good town of Carickfergus, "after soper began to tawlk, and sayd playnly, yt Inglysch men had no ryght too Yrland." "Yn effeckt," says the writer quoted, "these very wordes he spak."¹ What good liquor washed down this sentiment is not recorded, but we are told that the Sorley Boy was "of the Skotts that dwellithe in the northe by the see side, which ar now naturall Yryshemen, a pypull whose nattere ys, they wyll spek what ys in ther hartes when the drynk ys in ther heddes."

For some time before this date the English interests in Ireland had been so carelessly managed, the English power had been allowed to decline so much, that the old Irish independent system of government by clans or septs had revived. The district known as the English Pale was alone held by England, and even within it the Irish were "wery and yrk" of us. At this time the Pale was so small that it extended only from Dundalk in the north to a little below Dublin, about fifty miles in length, and inland by Dublin about ten miles in breadth. The English planted within it, constantly on the defensive, were often attacked, their cattle stolen, and sometimes man woman and child put to the sword and everything burned even to the gates of Dublin. In return the country without was as often visited, although defended as it was by woods, moors, and bogs, it was very strong and difficult to subdue. But the Irish tribes among themselves were seldom

(1). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 2, p. 13.

quiet. There was often war between the father and the son, and in one such case the father had previously banished his father, after long fighting and wasting their district. In England the Irish were not considered "chryistians, cyvell or humane creatures," but heathens or rather "savage brute beastes." When they "ryse in the morning," wrote one, "they shake their eares and goe their wayes." Such was the wretched state of the country in the reign of Mary that a man may have ridden south, west, or north, twenty or forty miles and see neither "house, corne, ne cattell." ²

So stood affairs on the accession of Elizabeth, when the papers and documents soon show that a stronger will was somewhere at work directing affairs. Attention was early given to the government of Ireland, and consideration as to how that country could be brought to peace and quiet.³ With various plans under review, the Queen was for a long time reluctant to believe the frequent "odious rumours" of an intended invasion by France, Scotland, and Spain; but the intrigues of the papists at home, and the success of the Spanish arms in Flanders, caused her at last to listen to these reports, and showed her that she must think of her own and the nation's security.

Care was at once taken to have all defences in an efficient state. The Earl of Pembroke was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Somerset,⁴ and a muster ordered of the whole force of the county. The certificate returned by Sir Hugh Paulet, Sir Maurice Barkley, Sir Ralfe Hopton, and John Horner, Esq., showed the whole number "of all able men within the said countie, as well horsemen as fotemen, with their armour and weapons," as being 6000; viz.,

Light Horsemen	...	...	...	100
Footmen	...	...	...	200

(2). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 2, p. 45.

(3). *State Papers*, Eliz., vol. 1, p. 84.

(4). *State Papers*, 1559, vol. 4, p. 29.

Archers	...	...	...	1000
Pikemen, with corslets	...	...	...	500
Pikemen, with "almayne ryvetts" ⁵	...	...	...	1500
Billmen	...	...	...	2700 ⁶

Meantime a rebellion had commenced in Ireland under Shane O'Neil, who was quickly joined by other chieftains. Shane, who was a model of his class, a gentleman "given to use a superflewte of wyne," was proclaimed a rebel and a traitor, and re-inforcements asked for, as "yf Shane be overthrown all is settled, yf Shane settell, all is overthrown."⁷ An additional force of 500 footmen and 100 horsemen was sent off, 60 men being levied in Somerset, and the Mayor of Bristol ordered to aid in their embarkation.⁸ These men were "to be employed for two or three months at the farthest," but it was announced that if any were disposed to "inhabit our said Realm, and to "abide with a good will," there was "sufficient room for a number to be wealthy placed there," and provision could be made for them.⁹ This extra force sufficed, as Shane, after being hunted and driven about from wood to wood, and having lost 5,000 kine, was induced to go to London, where he humbly tendered his submission in January, 1562.

At this time, when the management, payment, and welfare of the soldiers was so much in the hands of the captains, speculation was constant, both with regard to the pay of the men, and also in the quality and quantity of the supplies. To remedy some disorders of this sort, "for executing divers things," two Commissioners, one of whom was Sir Thomas Wroth, were now sent over to Ireland. They were ordered to take the musters of the garrisons; to enquire into and remedy any disorders therein; to allow no more Irish soldiers in

(5). A new kind of corslet.

(6). *State Papers*, vol. 55.

(7). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 4, p. 37.

(8). April 14, 1561. *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 3, p. 54.

(9). *State Papers*, Eliz. Dom. vol. 33, p. 18.

any band than had been accustomed, five or six at the most, and to see that the captains did not make false demands and charge for soldiers not in service.¹⁰ Sir Thomas seems to have taken a prominent part in this work, being always present at every council meeting, and alone devised and penned all directions, orders, letters, and warrants of the commission. He however, soon found his efforts were not approved, and his position very uncomfortable. Writing on the 1st July, 1564, he says, "The whole pack would willingly get rid of me. Uprightness is not sought. All is counted well gotten that is got from the Queen."¹¹ At last, tired of his office, he asked to be allowed to return, and in November, when acknowledging his letters of recall, he added, "I will make good speed to come home."¹²

Whilst Shane was in London he was known to have daily converse with the Spanish Ambassador, and on his return to Ireland it was soon seen that it would be impossible for him to remain humiliated. He first showed his restlessness by attacking and defeating the Scots in the north, and then confederating with them against the English. On being questioned by the Lord Deputy he replied that he had won what he had by the sword and intended to hold it by the sword.¹³ Foreseeing that this answer would bring war upon him, he endeavoured to make the dispute a religious one, and wrote to the French King asking for 5000 or 6000 men, and he would expel the English from Ireland.¹⁴ Preparations were quickly made to subdue him; a thousand men were ordered to be equipped and put in readiness; victual was ordered to be provided at Bristol for 600 soldiers for twenty-one days,¹⁵ whilst from the same port were sent off all sorts of war material,

(10). *State Papers*, Irish, 1563, vol. 9, p. 45.

(11). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 11, p. 18.

(12). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 11, pp. 101, 102.

(13). *State Papers*, Irish, 1566, vol. 16, p. 33.

(14). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 17, p. 34.

(15). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 18, p. 22.

including grindstones, and, what is of some interest heraldically, casting galtropes in barrels.¹⁶ The Sheriff of Somerset was required to levy two hundred men, "with as small trouble and stirring of our people as you may," their coats to be of Blois cloth, guarded with yellow. In 1580 this uniform was altered, when the coats were to be no longer red or blue, but of some "dark or sadd colour, as russett or such like."¹⁷ There were to be ten artificers per hundred, including one miner;¹⁸ and two surgeons, "being men of skyl," were to be "prestred from London or elsewhere," all to be ready to march at a day's warning.¹⁹ Seven hundred good soldiers were thus gathered at Bristol, 200 from Somerset, 200 from Devon, 200 from Gloucester, and 100 from London, and Edward Randolph was appointed their "Coronell," with orders to make all haste to the north of Ireland.²⁰ Contrary winds detained him some days, but eventually he sailed on the 6th September, 1566, his troops being in excellent condition, and in due time, without mishap arrived at Knockfergus (Carickfergus).²¹ Sailing up Lough Foyle he thought at first to have fortified Lifford, but finding the castle a ruin only thirty feet square, it offered neither sufficient protection nor accommodation for the number of men he had with him: but he saw in the fair and open country at Derry a spot every way suitable, except that there was no convenient ford. Formerly a town had stood there, but at this time there was only the "great church" and some other stone houses joining, a protection which determined the selection, and the spot was secured in the name of the Queen. The work of fortifying and entrenching was carried on with vigour, and Derry was garrisoned by six hundred footmen and fifty horsemen, who, with the artificers and others, made

(16). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 18, p. 36.

(17). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 149, p. 6; v. 175, p. 82.

(18). *State Papers*, Dom. Eliz., vol. 40, p. 22.

(19). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 19, p. 44.

(20). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 18, pp. 41, 46, 50.

(21). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 19, pp. 2, 3, 5.

up a thousand persons to be fed.²² But now commenced as sad a winter for these men as could well be imagined. No necessary provision, either of clothing or food, had been brought sufficient for any length of time. The "Coronell" on arrival had endeavoured to buy cattle of the natives, but found them "evil to please." Besides a few beeves sent in at first by the Lord Deputy, they got none; there was neither bacon, butter, nor cheese, and but a small supply of corn. The beans were mere refuse, not fit to be eaten. The two mills brought over would not grind wheat, or what they could do in three months would not suffice to feed the garrison for one. Even then the bread was so bad that the horses refused to eat it.²³ For bread stuff they had only biscuit and meal, and without meat, butter, or cheese, were driven to live on bread, drink, and peas.²⁴ They were too "almost clean without" garments and shoes. Some "freses" were got from the English Pale, and the "Coronell" was reduced to the curious extremity of sending to his wife for supplies. He wrote for shirts, kersies, shoes and canvas, with other necessities, at a cost to himself of £500.²⁵ Provision for a thousand men was also asked for, not to be diminished as the last was, when not half the quantity agreed for was delivered.²⁶ Under these trying circumstances the men became discontented, many were now sick with the flux, many had already died from cold, and all were in a miserably bad state, with the certain prospect of a worse if speedy relief were not afforded. To crown these troubles they found that the "infection" was caused from the camp being in the churchyard where the burials took place, and that they could not continue there. By March, 1567,

(22). *State Papers*, vol. 19, pp. 29, 30, 43.

(23). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 19, p. 44.

(24). England assumed the government of Ireland in 1171, and from the first papers of that year we learn that handmills were sent over from Somerset. There was but one flour mill in all Ulster so late as 1791; the quern was still used there.

(25). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 19, p. 29.

(26). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 19, p. 43.

their number had so declined that not more than 300 were able men, and of these the Devon men ran away and got safely home.²⁷ Victuals and relief eventually arrived, but in May, Derry was accidentally destroyed by fire, and the garrison was then removed.²⁸

The military work of the winter had not been much. On the 12th November, the "Coronell" sallied out with four bands to stop a party at a passage about three miles from Derry fort. At daylight he encountered them, charged in and put them to flight, but with the much regretted loss of his own life, the only loss on the English side.

Meanwhile Shane had built himself a retreat on an island in a fen country and had continued his hostility. Finding some assistance necessary he endeavoured to form an alliance with the Earl of Desmond in Munster, and then with his mortal enemy, a brother of Sorley Boy. During some negotiations with the latter, 2nd June, 1567, he was set upon suddenly and killed, and died "cutt and hewed extreameleye."²⁹ His successor, Turlough O'Neil, was at first obedient, and so a temporary quiet ensued.

A few men were sent over from Somerset in 1569, under Capt. Shute, 49 from "west of the water of Perrott," and 51 from "este of the water of Perrott." They were "stayed" at Bristol for eleven days, during which time some seem to have bought themselves off, as they returned home with their captain's passport, explaining that they had been discharged for certain "somes of money, some more, some less," by them severally paid to the said Captain Shute.³⁰ Captain Shute duly arrived in Ireland, and is mentioned from Killmallock in September, 1569. By October he had done such good service about Limerick that he was reported as deserving both reputa-

(27). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 20, pp. 54, 56.

(28). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 20, p. 77.

(29). *State Papers*, vol. 21, p. 8.

(30). *State Papers*, Dom., vol. 67, pp. 91, 92.

tion and reward.³¹ About the 26th of October he arrived in Cork, and was ordered to remain there to protect the "good" subjects, and to deliver to an officer appointed to receive them the provisions brought over from Bristol.³² He performed his work so well that he was again commended, but his men being disbanded on the 1st April, 1570, no more is heard of him.³³

There is now a lapse of two years before the papers mention any new recruits from Somerset, but the arming and preparing at home went on without ceasing. In 1572, the reports from the continent came in fast and frequent, of the arming of France and Spain on some design "long lingering, long expected," tending to some exploit in Ireland and Scotland. It was reported that 10,000 men were promised from France, that nine great ships were being prepared at Lisbon, and that, "if England will not turn their religion" the King of Spain would land men in Ireland and send 12,000 crowns to be employed in Scotland.³⁴ But with all this, and the threats of invasion for herself, prosperity was general in England. The Court went on its usual course; the Queen, more and more respected, making her annual progress everywhere amidst the profoundest affection.

With what party he may have left Somerset does not appear, but in October, 1572, Captain Edward Barckley is found in the "Book of the army in Ireland," as Constable of Ballymartyr. The Castle of Ballymartyr, between Cork and Youghal, after being a centre for robbery and spoil, was surrendered to the Lord Deputy in October, 1569.³⁵ As it was much decayed and not strong, it was thought to give the command to a friendly Irishman rather than hold it at any charge or danger,³⁶ but in the end as it was well placed to annoy an enemy it was given

(31). *State Papers, Irish*, vol. 29, p. 64, 67.

(32). *State Papers, Irish*, vol. 29, p. 70.

(33). *State Papers, Irish*, vol. 30, p. 6.

(34). *State Papers, Add. 1572*, vol. 21, pp. 4, 23, 25, 58, 62, 74.

(35). *State Papers, Irish*, vol. 29, p. 70.

(36). *State Papers, Irish*, vol. 30, p. 103.

to Capt. Barkley, who was considered likely to do some good service there.³⁷ This anticipation was not destined to be specially realised, as by some means the Earl of Desmond with other successes at this time, managed to secure it "suddenly," in Nov., 1573, all assistance being hindered "by the waters."³⁸ No account of what took place is found, as the messenger bearing it was "spoiled by the way." Capt. Barkley asserted that to blame him were unjust, as a grant of the place had been made to another, so that he, in doubt as to his own position "took no further care of it."³⁹ It was not especially valued, and certainly Barkley lost nothing by his misfortune. After this he went home, and returned to Carickfergus, in the north, in September 1573, with two hundred fresh men out of Somerset, and he now became and remained the active leader of the Somerset men throughout the campaign. The new men were evidently a very poor lot, and arrived "one half without armour or any manner of weapon except pikes." Naturally annoyed at such an exhibition, the Earl of Essex wrote to have the matter enquired into, how these men were thus "sent out of Somerset," as it was reported that Barkley had received £400 for their "furniture."⁴⁰ He certainly had money for them, but he raised it himself from his friends, and borrowed £300 from Lord Barkley. He afterwards begged for payment of this that he might meet his bills, and in June 1575, he received altogether £598 4s. 10½d.⁴¹

It seemed that although the men were able in person, only those were sent who were willing to go of their own free will, or "such as the county might best spare and well glad to be rid of."⁴² The unarmed condition of these men was the more vexing just now, as the Irish, who at first were armed only

(37). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 38, p. 20.

(38). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 43, pp. 4, 6.

(39). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 46, p. 15.

(40). *State Papers*, vol. 42, p. 34 ; vol. 53, p. 72.

(41). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 47, p. 17 ; vol. 52, p. 37.

(42). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 43, p. 11.

with darts,⁴³ had learned the use of weapons ; and when it was clear that force and extremity alone would mend the country, where, says one, “ nothing was to be got but hunger and lice.”⁴⁴ Ninety more footmen and five horsemen (demi-lances) were sent from Somerset,⁴⁵ and from Bristol went a supply of corn, beer, Gascon wine, and sack.⁴⁶

Captain Barkley, now at Belfast, wrote 14th May, 1574, that his opponents were endeavouring to gain time, hoping to exhaust his supplies. These “ wicked and faythles peple,” he reported, had no kind of grain ; their sheep were devoured by wolves, and by keeping them so long in the woods for safety they had lost all their wool, whereby their owners had nothing with which to make either mantles, coats, or hose ; they existed altogether on milk, if this could be taken from them they must famish.⁴⁷ Again from Dublin, 20th January, 1575, he wrote that the rebels were never in so poor a state, and that one month’s war well followed would settle them.⁴⁸ But this estimate was not at all realised, as Turlough O’Neil, now in rebellion, held his own for some time, until at last, by a partial submission, “ although still full of intolerable pride and insolency,” he agreed to terms, and meeting the Lord Deputy he “ put off his hat and joyed that he had peace.”⁴⁹

The struggle was now transferred from the north, from Ulster to Munster, where the great champion was the Earl of Desmond, who announced his intention of purging the country of everything English. There was also his kinsman, James Fitz-Maurice, who, having fled the country, had intrigued and “ practised evil things ” abroad, towards raising a force to invade Ireland. Reports of his proceedings came over in the

(43). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 85, p. 39.

(44). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 44, pp. 3, 34.

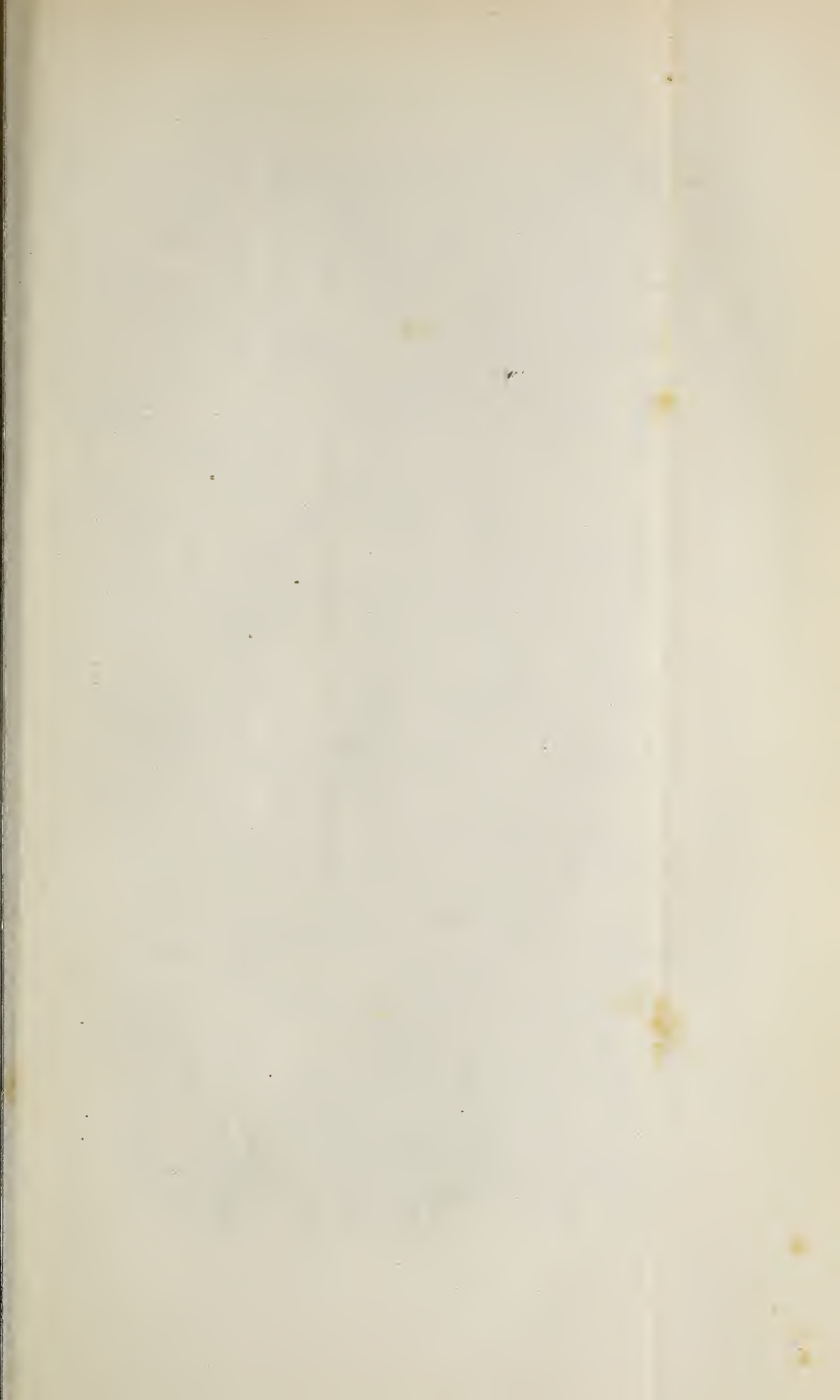
(45). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 43, p. 19.

(46). *State Papers*, vol. 42, p. 39 ; vol. 45, p. 48.

(47). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 46, p. 15.

(48). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 49, p. 45.

(49). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 85, p. 13.



with darts,⁴³ had learned the use of weapons ; and when it was clear that force and extremity alone would mend the country, where, says one, “ nothing was to be got but hunger and lice.”⁴⁴ Ninety more footmen and five horsemen (demi-lances) were sent from Somerset,⁴⁵ and from Bristol went a supply of corn, beer, Gascon wine, and sack.⁴⁶

Captain Barkley, now at Belfast, wrote 14th May, 1574, that his opponents were endeavouring to gain time, hoping to exhaust his supplies. These “ wicked and faythles peple,” he reported, had no kind of grain ; their sheep were devoured by wolves, and by keeping them so long in the woods for safety they had lost all their wool, whereby their owners had nothing with which to make either mantles, coats, or hose ; they existed altogether on milk, if this could be taken from them they must famish.⁴⁷ Again from Dublin, 20th January, 1575, he wrote that the rebels were never in so poor a state, and that one month’s war well followed would settle them.⁴⁸ But this estimate was not at all realised, as Turlough O’Neil, now in rebellion, held his own for some time, until at last, by a partial submission, “ although still full of intolerable pride and insolency,” he agreed to terms, and meeting the Lord Deputy he “ put off his hat and joyed that he had peace.”⁴⁹

The struggle was now transferred from the north, from Ulster to Munster, where the great champion was the Earl of Desmond, who announced his intention of purging the country of everything English. There was also his kinsman, James Fitz-Maurice, who, having fled the country, had intrigued and “ practised evil things ” abroad, towards raising a force to invade Ireland. Reports of his proceedings came over in the

(43). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 85, p. 39.

(44). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 44, pp. 3, 34.

(45). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 43, p. 19.

(46). *State Papers*, vol. 42, p. 39 ; vol. 45, p. 48.

(47). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 46, p. 15.

(48). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 49, p. 45.

(49). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 85, p. 13.

You ignore & unable to comprehend

Thank you for

Ms 2216 by John Jones Esq of No. 20. Southwell

John Jones Esq of No. 20. Southwell

George Esq of No. 20. Southwell

James Esq of No. 20. Southwell

John Esq of No. 20. Southwell

James Esq of No. 20. Southwell

spring of 1577, with intelligence that Spain and France had joined together; and that Ireland was to be invaded, whilst Scotland was to be entertained with marriage, men, and money. England was to be "stored" for rebellion, plots arranged against the Queen's person, and the Scottish Queen freed and made sovereign.⁵⁰ Fitz-Maurice, with sixteen ships, was said to be ready to embark,⁵¹ and a letter from a priest in Madrid to another in London, said that the Pope would send 2,000 men to Ireland.⁵² This letter was sealed with "singing cake," *i.e.*, the wafer used in the mass.

Another 300 men were ordered from Somerset, for whom six "trainers" were appointed, gentlemen of the county somewhat experienced in service, viz., Gregory Morgan, Thos. Marshall, Edward Kenne, Roger Sydenham, Richard Pollard, and Robert Smythe.⁵³

Two thousand others were ordered to be in readiness, of whom a second three hundred were to be from Somerset.⁵⁴ On June 15, nine days after the receipt of the order, the Justices wrote from Somerton to the Council, that their number was levied, but they added, "We beseech you to have consideration of this county, wch in our opynions ys verie much charged with services, as within this few years there hath gone out of the county into Ireland 700 men furnished, for whom we have received no part of their furniture back again, and now being charged with 600 more, whereof 300 are being trained and 300 ready to be sent off, we think it a heavy burthen."⁵⁵ To this letter there are fifteen signatures.

Nothing came of this Fitz-Maurice business until July 1579, when "the traitor" actually arrived with two ships of sixty tons and two barks, and preceded by two friars bearing en-

(50). *State Papers*, Dom. Eliz. Addend., vol. 27, p. 133.

(51). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 60, p. 44, 45, 51.

(52). *State Papers*, Dom. Eliz., vol. 118, p. 13.

(53). *State Papers*, Dom. Eliz., vol. 112, p. 12.

(54). *State Papers*, Dom., vol. 58, p. 44.

(55). *State Papers*, Dom., vol. 114, p. 15.

signs and a bishop with his mitre, crozier, and staff, he landed at Dingle, with several hundred Spaniards and Italians, the whole district being "infected with Papistry—the very ground of all these rebellions."⁵⁶ He quickly spoiled all the country, and then fortified himself at Smerwick, northward of Dingle Bay.⁵⁷ Forthwith came a letter to the Sheriff of Somerset and to the Mayor of Bristol, that as the peril was greater than was conceived, they should be in readiness to meet the emergency.⁵⁸ Three weeks later 600 men were assembled in Bristol, but the Justices had not forgotten their former complaint, and greatly "misliked" the whole business. They committed the choice of the men to the constables, who chose those who were so unfit, that many were sent back, even from Bristol.⁵⁹

A year later, the unrest continuing, by Proclamation 15th July 1580, the Queen begged "ye people not to gyve credit to the malicious purposes of such rebels who wandered from place to place, especially to Roome, and falsely and traiterously slandered her good government, and who laboured to have the realm invaded by foreign forces." She had caused the strength of her subjects to be viewed and arrayed, and doubted not but that they would keep to their duties and to their courage.⁶⁰

The Somerset Justices now acted briskly enough, and from Somerton, a few days later, reported that they had put in readiness 200 soldiers and had chosen for their captain George Popham, a gentleman acceptable to the men, of good parentage, forward in service, and of honest behaviour; and they doubted not but that his doings would be answerable to this description.⁶¹ Notwithstanding this flourish, Popham failed to get himself mentioned; Capt. Barkley, as usual, took the lead in all things. Sailing for Cork they arrived within sight, but whilst waiting

(56). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 67, p. 41.

(57). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 69, p. 3.

(58). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 168, p. 20.

(59). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 168, p. 59.

(60). *State Papers*, Dom., vol. 140, p. 18.

(61). *State Papers*, Dom., vol. 140, p. 24.

for the tide the wind changed and forced them to Waterford where they arrived on the 7th November,⁶² and where the people entertained them and "showered on them" every imaginable courtesy. The townsmen of Youghal hearing of their arrival, wrote for immediate aid, and Barkley with 200 men went there at once whilst others went to Cork, the Lord Deputy declaring that he never saw a fairer band both men and furniture.⁶³

Captain Barkley was now ordered to Askeaton Castle, in Munster, and left Youghal "not myndyng his debts," to the great trouble of his creditors.⁶⁴ He soon found work in his new quarters. On the fourth day after his arrival he was called out against the "traitors," when he killed forty, of whom six were "sworded men," and took all their goods, with six score cows and garrans. On another day he killed three score, of whom eighteen were "sworded men" and "notable traitors." On another he went "on a draught," managed to kill sixty, amongst them being a horseman called Wolf and eight of his sworded men, and took a hundred cows and garrans. On another "draught" amongst the Rowry marshes, he killed thirty men and took a hundred cows and studds. The fifth occasion he made a running camp of fourteen days, and went after the Earl of Desmond. Fire and force were used wherever he went, many of the people killed, and his enemy's strength much reduced.⁶⁵

Next the Captain is found in "Corque," in July 1581, where some disorders occurred amongst the soldiers. It seems to have been the custom to ship the men, not always with a sufficient number of officers, a distribution afterwards taking place. This process was much disliked, as the men when all from one county, would work only under their own county officers. It happened now that the late arrivals on being told off for

(62). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 78, pp. 46, 48, 52.

(63). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 78, p. 48.

(64). *State Papers*, vol. 79, p. 5; vol. 87, p. 83.

(65). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 103, pp. 33, 34.

service under stranger officers turned restive, and the controversy between them for the choice of their captains ran so high and fierce, that the business which ought to have lasted but three hours continued for five days. Some of the men took advantage of the dispute and disappeared—"were run away and gone."⁶⁶ The especial blame for all this was laid upon Captain Barkley, and the little respect he chose very frequently to show for the authorities made him some enemies, whom he had afterwards to combat, but whom he was strong enough to defeat.

Being again at Askeaton, his sixth exploit was an attack on some traitors who were preying on the country about Limerick. During the night he went to a ford, where he judged a party must pass, and on their approach his lieutenant charged in on them, killed two horsemen, wounded many, rescued their booty, and then safely returned. For this he received the many thanks of the freeholders thereabouts, who gave his soldiers twenty cows for their service.

It was in Limerick, "in a corner behynde the worlde," that Barkley, in October 1581, heard of the death of his father.⁶⁷

Continuing his work, his next effort was a "draught" on his enemy's camp during the night, when he killed fifty, eight being "sworded men," and took four hundred kine, two hundred garrans, and eighteen horses and hackneys. On another occasion a special messenger came to him, and offered to lead him on the Earl of Desmond. Getting assistance, he at once started, marched all night, and surprised the camp, but the Earl by good fortune just managed to escape by a back-way, and, as it was afterwards discovered, lay hid in a bush within ten paces. Thirty of his chief followers, not so fortunate, were killed in the cabin, where was also taken the Earl's shirt of mail and other apparel, together with his wine and his provisions then seething over the fire. Securing the spoil of

(66). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 84, p. 16.

(67). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 86, p. 34.

the whole camp, including eighty cows and garrans, the party then returned, being attacked on their way four times before daylight. Taking with him eighty men and two hundred gallowglasses (horsemen), he on another occasion went over the mountains and took a prey of 300 kine; and again, taking the same route, he secured 400 cows and killed 200 traitors. For his eleventh adventure he led the vanguard in an attack, forced the enemy from his places of strength, and took 300 or 400 kine. He secured also fifty "wymen," the Countess of Desmond, once only forty paces distant, just escaped him for "want of backing." Hearing that the Earl with his whole force was come to prey in Carbery, he went after him with his own company, forty horsemen and a large following of kerne, but the Earl getting information of his movement quickly disappeared. On other occasions also he went out upon his enemies and "had the killing of them." By these efforts the country round was fairly subdued and safe and the people offered to bring in any man who was suspected to answer to the law; they also agreed that if any traveller were misused, he should be doubly recompensed for his losses.⁶⁸ With this understanding the Captain left them, and having private affairs to see to, made another visit to England.⁶⁹ His band were mostly discharged, and for want of pay or provision fell out "quaied" (dispirited), into great misery, being obliged to sell their weapons and garments and to beg their bread in the streets.⁷⁰ Tranquillity was not yet, however, established. It was suggested that now the country was so much spoiled there should be more horsemen, as the footmen "for want of footmanship," were not so able to command success, and then, by making the campaign a defensive one, the "traitors" could be starved out. Writing on the 25th Sept. 1582, Barkley says, "I dare venture my life and credit this shall do more in

(68). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 103, p. 34.

(69). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 89, p. 38.

(70). *State Papers*, vol. 89, p. 38.

three months than now in two years. But if the soldiers be not so well paid that their captains can keep up their companies, it is all thrown away.”⁷¹

On the 15th January, 1583, Barkley embarked again at Bristol with fifty men, but was driven back the next day for “never was there fowler wether.” His men, perhaps remembering that one day at sea, declined to wait for a change and many stole away. This was very hard on him, as he was already supporting thirty horsemen at his own cost; and the more vexing, as the Justices had set out these men well furnished with everything requisite for service. “I know them very efficient to serve,” he wrote, when begging for supplies and that his bills might be accepted.⁷²

The same constant story—the want of money—was kept up in Ireland, where the Lords Justices, 19th Feb., 1583, wrote, that they were “right sorry to importune with a sute so offensyve,” but were compelled “seeinge howe neere the case towcheth us in conscience, to tourne a sorte of wretched sowles a begginge without payinge them their enterteignement, which, God knoweth, they have hardly earned.”⁷³ Barkley arrived at Waterford about the 23rd January, when his old enemy, Sir Henry Wallop, the Treasurer at Wars,⁷⁴ who was somewhat a Somerset man being Lord of the Manor of Worle, was quickly at variance with him; “favour was never bestowed upon any that worse deserved it,” he wrote; “he lives, as it were, west of the law and east of all honest and reasonable dealings.”⁷⁵ For all this Barkley simply cared nothing, but proceeded on his last exploit in this campaign, again against the Earl of Desmond. Subdued by famine, forsaken by his followers, and not knowing whom to trust nor where to stay, Desmond had fled over the mountains into Kerry, to seek relief by spoiling

(71). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 95, p. 69.

(72). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 99, p. 13.

(73). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 99, p. 62.

(74). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 103, p. 21.

(75). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 101, pp. 25, 1.

his brother-in-law.⁷⁶ He had managed to desolate the district, and was moving off with a spoil of 2,000 cows, when Barkley came up with him and utterly defeating him, compelled him to leave everything.⁷⁷ Tired and weary of these continued raids every man was glad of his destruction.

As may be easily imagined, the country was now a complete waste. From time to time several chieftains had surrendered, and those now out were for the most part in the same plight as Desmond and little else remained to them than submission. Accordingly, in April, 1583, several of them came in, with 700 followers, and in June came twenty-five others, altogether 2,109 persons. Two hundred others were received by Captain Barkley. Of the twenty-five chiefs there were only six who had more than a hundred men; and so, in varying numbers, down to one with only sixteen. As a token of obedience they were compelled to cut their glibbes (a fringe worn over the forehead), and the ladies had to banish their great rolls, and the priests to put away their concubines, or marry them.”⁷⁸ Captain Barkley was the bearer to the Queen of the report of this deliverance; and her Majesty, after hearing it, ordered that only 100 horsemen and 200 footmen should remain in Munster “to protect the weak from the vagrant and needy,” and that the English soldiers and their armour should be sent back to England.⁷⁹ An attempt had again been made to injure Barkley and besides the old report of fraudulent accounts, he was charged with showing contempt for his superiors, “jesting and scoffing in all things as if none could gainsay him.”⁸⁰ He was however able to hold his own. Besides the report he carried also a letter from the Lord Deputy Ormond, recommending him “my very good friend Captain Barkley,” as a

(76). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 102, p. 49.

(77). *State Papers*, vol. 102, p. 33.

(78). *State Papers*, vol. 30, p. 4; vol. 29, p. 5; vol. 41, p. 43.

(79). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 104, p. 88.

(80). *State Pap.*, vol. 95, p. 41; vol. 96, p. 8; vol. 102, p. 50; vol. 103, pp. 54, 56.
New Series, Vol. VII., 1881, Part II.

gentleman who had served her Majesty painfully and carefully.⁸¹ The Queen consequently expressed to him her thanks, and in discharging the "band" of soldiers under him, she was "well contented therewith." Their captain too, was also "well pleased with their faithful services."⁸²

At this time the whole number of men in garrison in Ireland was but 1967—1305 foot, 608 horse, and 54 kerne (Irish). There seems never to have been many, if any, more than this number, and sometimes only about 1500. From one-third to one-half of these must have been from Somerset, it is not therefore surprising that the county complained; but the cause is clear, in that, with the slight exception of Chester, Bristol was the chief port of departure for Ireland. The campaign ought not to have lasted twenty years, but it must be remembered that these events were but preliminary to the invasion of England, and that throughout the whole of this time England was arming and drilling, and was only enabled to rest for a time, by the defeat of the great Spanish Armada in 1588.

(81). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 103, p. 32.

(82). *State Papers*, Irish, vol. 105, p. 2.

On an Ancient Road between Glastonbury and Street.

BY JOHN MORLAND.

AS every one knows, the hills and rising ground on which Glastonbury now stands originally formed an island or a group of islands, rising out of the mere or swamp, which surrounded it during the winter and possibly in summer also, before the embankment of the river Brue, and of the Parret, about Burnham. To obtain access to this island at all seasons, raised roads or causeways were required, and these causeways would naturally be carried across the narrowest stretches of swamp or moor. Thus, at a very early time the high land of "Wearyall," or "Wirral," would be connected with the rising ground about Street, for at this point the swamp was less than half a mile wide; Street is, in fact, much nearer to Glastonbury than any other rising ground.

The existing road from the south-western end of Weary-all Hill starts from Northover, and is carried nearly in a straight line across to Street turnpike; it is called pre-eminently "the Causeway," and has the reputation of being a Roman road. It crosses the Brue by "Pomparle's," or "Pemperel's" bridge, the name being derived from *Pons Periculosus*; the bridge was, however, rebuilt and much widened early in the present century. Though of reputed Roman origin, I am not aware that there is any evidence of Roman or even of ancient work in the structure of either the road, as it now exists, or of the bridge.

A few years ago, when the meadows to the east of this causeway were being drained, an old road buried under the soil, was cut across in many places, and was thus traced from the river Brue, on both banks of which it can be seen, nearly up to Street, as will be seen from the plan herewith; it is about 45 yards from the present road, runs nearly parallel with it, and is buried from 18 inches to two feet under the present surface.

As the drains which cut across it were shallow, they did not enable one to examine the structure of the road fully; but, besides the stone used, which was chiefly much weather-worn blue lias, many pieces of timber were found, some used as piles, others running across the road, and yet others longitudinally. The surface of the road was rough, but one observer tells me that he was able to distinguish wheel tracks. I regret I cannot at present corroborate this from my own observation.

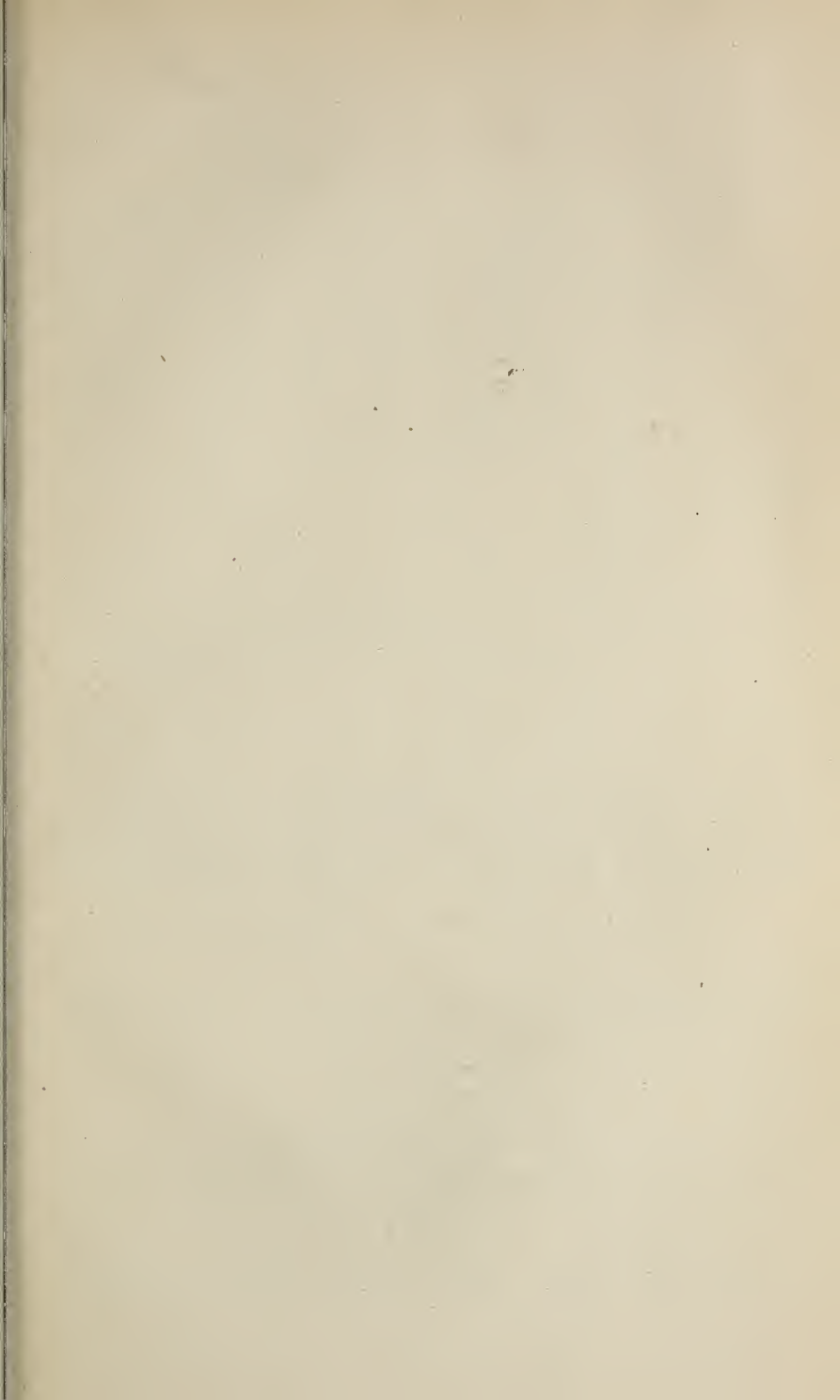
The direction of the road is nearly due north and south. If it were further continued southward, it would strike, firstly, Street Cross, where the Somerton and Bridgwater roads divide; then the fields now known as Portway, and then the gap over the Polden Hills, at Marshall's Elm, over which the Somerton and Ilchester road passes. Near this point a Roman villa was discovered some years since. If continued northward, it would first cross a pasture, and so reach the foot of Wearyall Hill. Its direction afterwards is not clear.

It may be as well to note here that Mr. J. G. L. Bulleid informs me that an old road in the direction of Wells was cut across when the railway was made near the present Wells turnpike road.

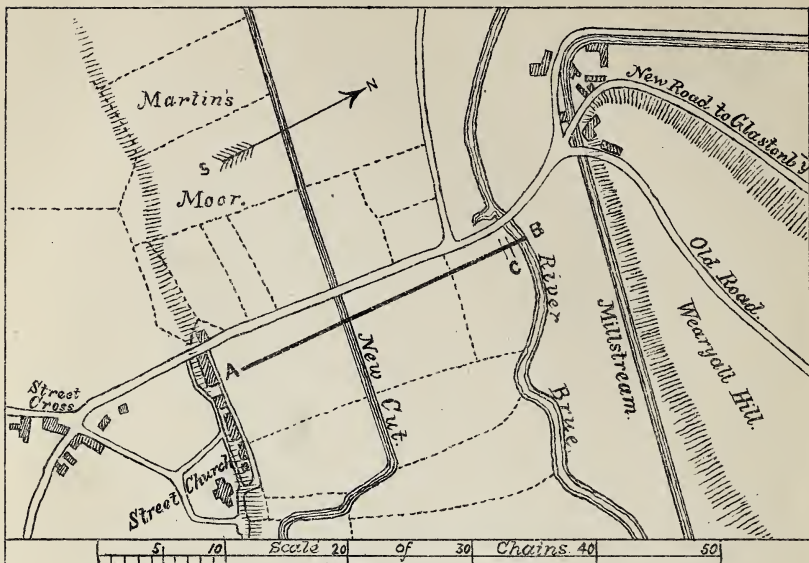
On the occasion of the meeting of the Archæological Society at Glastonbury, it seemed fitting to do something further to examine the road, although, as will be seen, many points were left unsettled.

The point chosen for the examination was about 20 feet south of the present river bank, and 45 yards east of Pomparle's bridge, before referred to. I regret that when the Society viewed the spot the surface only was uncovered, as the internal structure proved to be much more interesting.

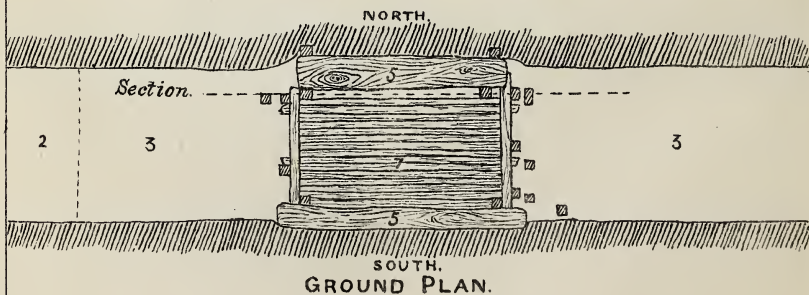
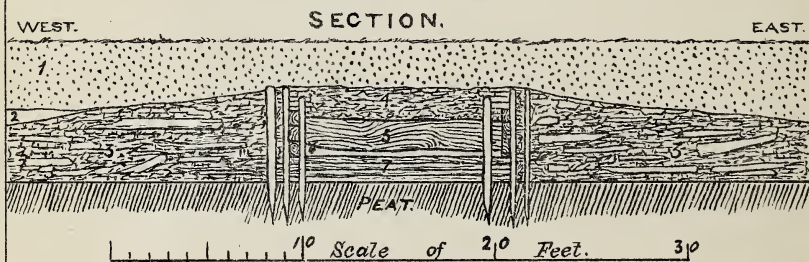
I may now describe the details of the section thus made last autumn, premising that this section may or may not represent the general structure of the road. My own impression is that the work at this point, being near the river, or at all events at a low part of the valley, was probably of a more substantial



ANCIENT ROAD BETWEEN GLASTONBURY AND STREET.



A-B Ancient Road as identified. C Site of Section.



1. Clay deposited by River.—2. Pond deposit.—3. Embankment of Road.
4. Stones.—5. Oak trees.—6. Concrete.—7. Round sleepers with brushwood.

character than the average, although the general structure was similar; the general appearance of the remains, both in the drains before mentioned, and in the banks of the main drain, called the "new cut," leads me to this conclusion.

Commencing then from the base, black peat was found at a depth of seven feet from the present surface; upon this peat were laid transverse lengths of timber and boughs, in the rough, and with the bark on; these sleepers were generally 12 to 14 feet long, they were chiefly of alder, though there was a little oak and fir, and intermixed with the timber some brushwood; the whole mass was 18 inches thick, and the workmen described cutting through it as "quarrying wood." It struck me that there was a possibility that this basal portion was really a yet more ancient road itself; a corduroy road, in fact, like that between Westhay and Meare, described by Mr. Dymond, and that the super-structure may have been of later date, the newer road taking the older, possibly British road as a foundation. The width of this base would be about 15 feet. Above this mass of cross timbers there was a thin layer of concrete, much decayed, except where protected by the upper timbers. On each side of the mass, oak piles, averaging five inches by six inches, seven feet long, and well squared and sharpened, evidently by an adze or similar cutting tool, were driven down two feet deep into the peat. The plan shows the cross sections of the piles, of which there were 17 in the 10 feet length of road explored. Most of these piles were solid, but a few had oblong mortise holes well cut obliquely through them and as these holes had no relation whatever to the structure, and were empty, it was evident either that some old material had been used up, or that some new material had been spoiled in the working and then utilized as piles. It struck me that such pieces of obliquely-mortised oak might very probably have been used in making a wooden bridge, or have been prepared for such a purpose. The clean cutting of these oblique mortises shows the possession of

sharp cutting tools, such as one would scarcely expect to find used anterior to the Roman occupation.

On reference to the section and plan, it will be seen that the chief purpose served by the piles was to keep in place the upper wooden framework of the road, which I will proceed to describe. The sides of the road were formed of squared oak timbers, those taken out were seven feet long, and about 7×11 and 7×9 inches square. There were three on each side placed above one another, thus forming the sides of a trough 30 to 33 inches deep, the bottom of the trough being the concrete before mentioned. It is possible that there was yet another squared timber used to form the sides, as the upper ones remaining were much decayed; if so, the sides of the trough would be raised to the surface of the road, and be level with the tops of the piles. At each side of the excavation, *i.e.*, to the north and south, heavy timbers or barks of oak were found—one of which was two feet in diameter—running across the road, into which the side timbers were notched; but in no case did we find any evidence of pegging or nailing. On examining, however, one of the side timbers, I discovered that a hole, quite round and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter, had been made through it, which was filled with an oaken pin which fitted most accurately; there was also in this piece another hole, empty, about three inches deep. As the peg or pin was not continued beyond the side timber in which it was found, and did not fasten it to anything, I think we have here also some old material used up in the formation of the road. The accurate boring of the timber, and the close fitting of the wooden pin show a dexterity in the use of tools which would not discredit a modern joiner. I regret that the examination could not at the moment be continued further north or south, to determine whether the side timbers were continued beyond the excavation, but we can only conjecture that they were so.

The whole space between the timbers, and above them to the surface of the road, was filled with stones, not of very

large dimensions, mostly perhaps a foot long. These stones were roughly piled by hand against the sides, but had been shot in promiscuously in the centre. By this filling in a stone road was formed, 12 feet wide. The stones were fragments of lias and rhaetic limestone, such as would be obtained by surface diggings on the Polden Hills near Marshall's Elm, where the road would cross the range. So, if the road was made from its southern end, the stone might have been brought over the portion of the road already completed, from some of the numerous surface diggings which are seen along that ridge. Some of the stones turned up in the previous drainage cuttings were of later lias age, and were probably brought from the Glastonbury end for subsequent repairs. The surface of the road where we excavated had evidently been considerably washed, but it had the appearance of having been levelled and consolidated by smaller stones spread over the surface. In the excavation a few large flat stones were found resting on the surface of the road, at such a distance from one another as to serve for stepping-stones, and such probably they were, carrying one's thoughts back to the time when the few inhabitants picked their way across the morass after the causeway had fallen into decay, and before that still darker period, when all remembrance of the site of the road was lost.

East and west from the piles outwards sloped long embankments formed of brushwood and stones and logs of wood, amongst which were to be found the tops of the piles which formed the road, and which had evidently all been cut down to its surface level; these tops yet shewed the dents of the rammer, and from their position shewed that the embankments were not an afterthought, but that they were formed at the same time as the road itself. These slopes probably extend about 30 feet on each side of the road, and rest as the road itself does on the solid black peat. As these slopes thin out as they retreat from the road, it will be seen that over the lowest portions there must be an accumulation of nearly seven

feet of deposit, probably not quite so much, because the centre of the road where the weight is very heavy, must have considerably depressed the surface of the old black peat on which it rests. For the most part this deposit consists of a stiff unctuous clay, such as is always deposited at the present time whenever the river overflows. Towards the west, however, there was under this a blackish deposit full of *planorbis*, *valvata*, and *cyclas* shells, which live in stagnant water; there must therefore at this point have been a pond separated from the river by an embankment. On the upper side was found in the lower portion of the embankment, some brown peaty or vegetable matter unconsolidated, but no black peat was seen anywhere above the level of the road, in fact all across this valley there are always some feet of clay above the foundation peat. As however the road rests on peat it is clear that the surface of the ground when the road was made was morass, and the formation of peat was continued to that date; but at this exact date the formation of peat ceased, and in its place clay was deposited. Is this a mere coincidence? or is there a connection between the road-building and the cessation of peat? I believe that there is a very intimate connection between the two facts, the connecting link being that the road-builders also embanked the river. After the river was embanked the growth of the sedge and plants which form peat would be checked at once, and finally they would be killed out, finer grasses forming pasture taking their place, whilst at the same time the frequent flooding of the land would then as now, constantly add to the mass of clay resting on the peat, till the soil was finally by this means raised above ordinary flood point. That the great mass of clay covering the peat of many square miles in extent, and of an average depth probably of not less than five feet, should have been deposited in the last 1500 years, may excite surprise, but those who examine the river at flood time will see that it holds a very great deal of mud in suspension, depositing it in every still bay, or on the flooded fields, and

forming mud banks far out in the Bristol Channel. To what extent the embankment was carried by the road-makers would be an interesting subject for investigation. Probably the diversion of water into the mill stream at Clyse Hole was a work of later date; this could easily be proved by tracing the road across the field to the foot of Wearyall, and testing its relations as to position with the millstream. If this is so, the embankment probably followed the old course of the river from Plungen to Clyse Hole, taking the curve under the Tor and Wearyall Hill.

If, as I conclude, the road-makers were Romans and that they also embanked the river, it is morally certain that there was a bridge over the river, for the Romans were great bridge builders. In this situation it is probable the bridge would be of wood, if for no other reason than that it would be difficult to obtain sufficiently sound foundations for a heavy stone bridge. It would be extremely interesting to discover the exact site of the old bridge, the original *Pons Periculosus*; it is possible all the remains may have been destroyed, but yet a strict search could scarcely fail further to unveil the past history of the district. The remains excavated were so solid, that to some the idea of this being a part of a bridge head was suggested. It may have been such, but there is no proof. The stonework towards the river did however seem to disappear rather suddenly beyond the oak trunk figured on the plan; if this were the bridge-head, however, it is difficult to explain the rather considerable quantity of stone shewn on both banks of the river.

During the excavation careful watch was kept for any remains in the rubbish, but nothing of importance was seen—one or two iron nails, about two inches long, on the surface of the road; a few pieces of common pottery, probably modern drain-pipes; and a part of a very flat horse-shoe, were all the manufactured articles found. A few bones, amongst which were one or two human bones, and a fragment of coal complete the list.

It appears strange at the first sight that the builders of the present causeway did not appropriate the materials of the old road in making the new one, or indeed why they should have chosen a slightly different course, instead of building on the old foundation; but it seems to point to the possibility that in the troublous times after the close of the Roman occupation, the road was absolutely lost sight of; the land had returned to wildness, although the embanked river remained to tell of the conqueror's handiwork. Then when once more the country was settled, under the sway of the Abbots, a new road with a new bridge was built across the levels, but the road-makers were at the time entirely unaware that they had an excellent foundation within a few yards of them. This does not seem by any means an unimportant point, for the loss of any remembrance of such a solid and useful piece of engineering points not merely to a disturbed state of society, but to the absolute removal of one race or set of inhabitants and their replacement by another, for even a few inhabitants would be quite able to hand down the history of the site of the work from one generation to another. Are we then to believe that this complete break took place when the Saxons conquered the country? If so the continuous Christian occupation of Glastonbury, which has been so lovingly asserted, would rather seem to mean that one Christian race was extirpated by another Christian race, rather than by a heathen one, in which case it probably fared as badly with the British priests as with their flock. The restoration of the date of the present causeway would possibly throw light on general as well as on our more purely local history.

Roman Coins lately found at Taunton.

BY JAMES HURLY PRING, M.D.

IN the various historical notices which have been given of the town of Taunton, it is always spoken of as having been "a place of great note in the time of the Saxons." It is only quite recently, however, that striking evidences have been adduced of its having been occupied, previous to "the time of the Saxons," by the Britons and the Romans. Of the Roman period, the memorials still left us are numerous and varied, and it is with the object of adding somewhat to these, and of affording further evidence of the presence of the Romans on the site of Taunton, that I am induced now to give an account of a few additional Roman coins which have lately been discovered here. Before proceeding, however, with a more particular notice of these coins, I think it well to observe that it must always be borne in mind that the Roman coins so generally diffused throughout Britain do actually represent to us the ancient currency in use during that long period when this country formed part of the Roman world. And if, as has been remarked, "coinage is the barometer of national civilisation," what a strong and significant light is thrown on the relative civilisation of the two nationalities, when we compare the exquisite workmanship of some of the coins commonly circulating amongst the Romans of Britain, with that exhibited in the rude and uncouth coinage of their barbarian conquerors, the Saxons! As regards, also, the actual amount of coin in circulation, it has been stated that there were clearly greater quantities of current coin during the flourishing state of Britain under the sway of the Romans, than for a thousand years after their departure.

On a former occasion it was pointed out that an abundant

supply of coins is usually yielded by those sites where interments have taken place,¹—an observation which was shown to be verified in the case of Holway, in the parish of Taunton St. Mary Magdalene. In addition to the interments with the urn of Roman silver coins ploughed up in 1821, which have been already described, about ten years ago a number of similar silver coins, with charred bones and ashes, indicating, apparently, a case of cremation, were accidentally discovered deposited together in a field, which was situated at a considerable distance from that in which the skeletons were found, and numerous isolated scattered coins have also from time to time been turned up at Holway. Some of these latter, found within the last two or three years, possess a special interest, inasmuch as they tend to afford evidence of the presence of the Romans on the site of Taunton upwards of a century and a half earlier than has hitherto been supposed. With the exception of the highly interesting coin of Vespasian, bearing the *Judæa Capta* on the reverse, found in the parish of Taunton St. James about a century ago, no other coin of this early period has until quite lately been discovered here. On the last occasion, however, when treating of this subject, I was enabled to state that I had recently become possessed of a second brass Antoninus Pius, just found at Holway, and I may now mention that since this a Domitian and a Trajan have also been found on this site. We have thus presented to us an almost continuous series of coins, ranging from the reign of Vespasian, A.D. 69, to that of Antoninus Pius, A.D. 161; a feature altogether new in this locality, and suggesting the presence of the Romans here at a date 176 years earlier than is indicated by the Roman silver coins of the Lower Empire found at Holway. These latter do not commence before the reign of Constantine, A.D. 337, though they extend from that date in great numbers down to the time of Honorius, covering

(1). *The Briton and the Roman on the site of Taunton*, by James Hurly Pring, M.D., Taunton, 1880, p. 106.

continuously a second period of just 60 years. It has been remarked of coins generally that they are "the lenses of the historical telescope, which annihilate the distance of time, and bring distinctly before our eyes contemporary records of past ages with unerring accuracy." In describing these coins, then, it is my intention not merely to confine myself to a bare enumeration of them, but to offer also a few words of special comment in connection with some of them, with the object of infusing a greater degree of interest, and, so to speak, of life, into the annals of this, the Romano-British period of our history. Passing over the coin of Vespasian, A.D. 70, already frequently described, I shall here proceed to notice those coins which have been recently found, and all of which are now in my possession.

I.—DOMITIAN. Copper, A.D. 81–96. Found at Holway, in a field called *the Ten Acres*, in which the interments took place, and which adjoins the branch road which has been described as running from Norton to Neroche. In excellent preservation.

Obverse: Head to the right laureated, beardless.

Legend: IMP. CAES. DOMIT. AVG. GERM.
COS. XIII. CENS. PERP. P.P.

Reverse: Pallas marching to the right (S.C.), with spear in right hand, and parazonium in the left. VIRTVTI AVGVSTI. The *parazonium* here observed in the left hand was a bâton of command or a martial bâton, and not a pointless dagger, as is sometimes described.

Domitian was the son of Vespasian, and was the last of the twelve Cæsars. It was in his reign that Britain was discovered to be an island, and that its reduction was finally accomplished by Julius Agricola. The Emperor Domitian distinguished himself at first by his love of learning, and passed some beneficent laws, but afterwards gave way to many debasing excesses,

and perished by the hand of an assassin, A.D. 96. After death, his body was refused the honour of a funeral.

II.—TRAJAN. A.D. 98–117. *Ten Acres*, Holway, 1878. A bold and handsome coin, in fair preservation, apparently of orichalcum, or yellow brass.

Obverse: Laureated head to the right, beardless.

Legend: somewhat obliterated — OP(TIMO)
AVG(VSTO) GER(MANICO) DAC(ICO).

Reverse: A noble figure of the goddess *Fortuna*, sitting in a chair, one foot on a small *scabellum*, or stool; the cornucopia in one hand, and the tiller of the rudder of a ship in the other. SENATVS POPVLVS QUE ROMANVS. On the exergue, FORT. RED. (*Fortunæ Reduci*).

Trajan was born at Italica (now Seville), A.D. 54, and reigned 19 years and a half. There are three fine arches existing to his honour, viz., that at Merida in Spain, and two others, one at Beneventum, the other at Ancona in Italy. The famous Doric column, erected in honour of his Dacian victories, still forms one of the majestic ornaments of modern Rome. After his death, his ashes were carried to Rome, and deposited under this stately column.

III.—ANTONINUS PIUS. A.D. 138–161. Holway, second brass; much defaced.

Obverse: Head of the Emperor to the right, laureated, slightly bearded. Legend, imperfect . . .

Reverse: A female figure of Britannia seated, holding a spear, but much obliterated.

Antoninus, surnamed Pius, forms a pleasing contrast to many of the Roman emperors, “those savages on thrones,” as some of them have been justly styled. He is stated to have possessed all the virtues that can form a perfect statesman, philosopher, and king. He extended the boundaries of the Roman province in Britain, and has left his mark on this

country, by the immense continuous rampart of earth and turf raised during his reign, between the firths of Clyde and Forth, which still bears the name of *the wall of Antoninus*. After a reign of 23 years, he died, A.D. 161.

IV.—CONSTANTINUS MAGNUS. Third brass, A.D. 306–337.

Found at Holway, 1881, in clearing out a wide ditch—probably an old sunken road, as the bottom of it is for the most part paved.

Obverse: Much patinated and defaced. Head of the Emperor to the right, galeated.

Reverse: Two winged Victories standing, but corroded and indistinct. The exergue being obliterated, there is no means of learning whether this coin was struck at Constantinople or not. It is interesting, however, as being the only coin of the kind hitherto found here, and also as being of an earlier date than any of the others of the Lower Empire previously discovered at Holway.

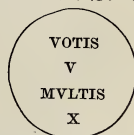
V.—JULIANUS (Julian the Apostate), A.D. 361–363. Silver coin, very perfect, found at Holway.

Obverse: Head to the right, diademed, with paludamentum and cuirass. D.N. IVLIANVS. P.F. AVG.

Reverse: Within a civic wreath—

Meaning that the public games

and rejoicings were solemnly vowed by the people to be celebrated to his honour both in the fifth and tenth year of his reign, if it lasted so long a time. The *quinquennalia* were celebrated by him at Vienna, but he lost his life in a skirmish with the Persians before the arrival of the *decennalia*. The exergue bears the mint mark, *Con*; showing that this coin was struck at Constantinople, the native city of this Emperor.



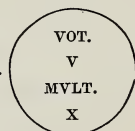
Although Julian drew odium on himself by professing Arianism at one time, and by ultimately renouncing Christianity altogether, we have it on the authority of a contemporary historian that he was to be classed with heroic characters, and was conspicuous for the brilliancy of his exploits and his innate majesty. This coin derives value from the fact that the portrait it presents to us confirms at the present day the fidelity of the description of the personal appearance of the Emperor which was given by Ammianus Marcellinus fifteen hundred years ago. Paris, the ancient Lutetia, was founded by the Emperor Julian, who was accustomed to repair to it as his favourite winter resort.

VI.—VALENS (2). A.D. 364–378. Two silver coins in high preservation, found at Holway.

(1) Found some years ago.

Obverse: Head of the Emperor to the right, filleted and diademed, with paludamentum and cuirass. DN. VALENS. P.F. AVG.

Reverse: Within a civic wreath—



On the exergue, A.B., the meaning of which seems questionable.

VII.—(2). Found in making a hedge at Holway, March, 1881. In excellent preservation.

Obverse: Head to the right, filleted, with diadem, paludamentum, and cuirass. DN. VALENS. P.F. AVG.

Reverse: Figure of Rome seated, with Victory standing on a globe in her right hand, and a spear in her left. VRBS ROMÆ. In the exergue, T.R.P.S.—TREVERIS PECVNIA SIG-NATA,—struck at Treves, in Germany.

VIII.—GRATIANUS. A.D. 367. Silver coin, in perfect condition, found at Holway.

Obverse: Head to the right, diademed, and paludamentum and cuirass. D.N. GRATIANVS. P.F. AVG.

Reverse: Rome seated, with globe in right hand and spear in left. VIRTVS ROMANORVM.

Exergue, T.R.P.S.

The globe, as here held in the right hand, is said to have been introduced by Augustus to express possession of the world. In many cases, as in the preceding, the globe itself is surmounted by a small figure of Victory, the additional signification of which is sufficiently apparent.

The famous poet, Ausonius, was the tutor of the Emperor Gratian.

IX.—VALENTINIANUS JUNIOR. A.D. 375. Silver, found in a hedge at Holway, 1875, in good preservation.

Obverse: Head to the right, diademed. Paludamentum and cuirass. D.N. VALENTINIANVS IVN. P.F.

Reverse: Winged figure of Victory walking to the left, holding wreath in right hand and palm branch in the left. VICTORIA AVG. G.G.

Exergue, T.R.P.S.

X.—THEODOSIUS. A.D. 379. Silver coin. Holway.

Obverse: Head to the right, diademed; paludamentum and cuirass. D.N. THEODOSIVS. P.F. AVG.

Reverse: Rome seated, holding a spear in the right hand, and a cornucopia in the left. CONCORDIA. AVG. G.G. Exergue, A.Q.P.S. The mint mark of Aquilegia.

He was the last of the Emperors who was sole master of the whole Roman Empire, and being a zealous supporter of Christianity, he abolished the heathen worship in Rome. His reign was tarnished, however, by his vindictive and indiscriminate slaughter of the inhabitants of Thessalonica, for

which he was excommunicated by St. Ambrose, and made to do open penance.

XI.—EUGENIUS. A.D. 392. Silver; worn. Holway.

Obverse: D.N. EVGENIVS. P.F. AVG.

Reverse: Figure seated, holding a Victory in right hand and a spear in the left. VIRTVS ROMANORVM. Exergue, T.R.P.S.

This usurper enjoyed but a short reign of two years. His title was acknowledged in the western provinces; but he was vanquished and put to death at Aquileia, by order of Theodosius.

XII.—ARCADIUS. A.D. 395. Silver. Holway.

Obverse: Head to the right, diademed; paludamentum and cuirass. D.N. ARCADIVS P.F. AVG.

Reverse: Figure seated, holding a globe, surmounted by a figure of Victory in the right hand, and a spear in the left. VIRTVS ROMANORVM. Exergue, T.R.P.S.

He succeeded his father Theodosius, and was succeeded by his brother Honorius, the last of the Roman Emperors who held sway in Britain. In the reign of Arcadius, Pelagius, a Romanized Briton, spread the noted Pelagian heresy, reprobated, even at the present day, in the Ninth Article of our Church.

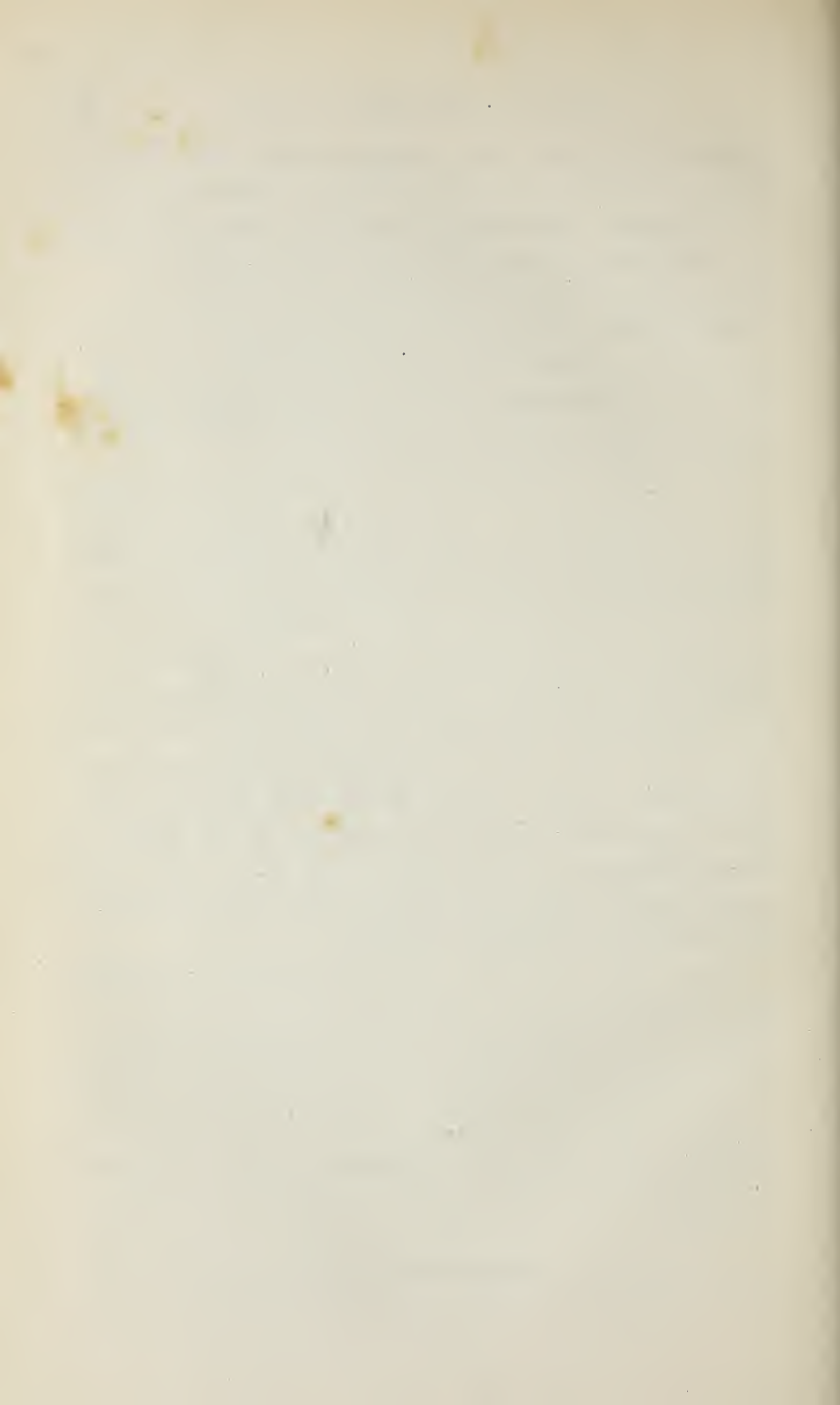
In addition to those which have now been described, great numbers of these late Roman silver coins, discovered at Holway, have passed into private hands, and many are to be seen at present in our Museum. It has, I am aware, become the fashion of late to disparage the value of the evidence furnished by the presence of Roman coins, a proceeding which may perhaps be held to be admissible in those instances in which such coins are found dissociated from any other remains. The site of Taunton, however, in addition to its Roman coins,

presents, as has been shown, numerous other interesting and substantial relics and proofs of Roman occupation, far exceeding those which have been found in many other conspicuously Roman towns, which, like Rochester, for example, bear the stamp of their Roman origin even in their name.

In the present instance, therefore, these coins serve not only to attest the presence of the Romans in Taunton: they supply also chronological data, whereby to fix the period during which they were present on this site—information which it would be difficult to derive from any other source.

In conclusion, I would here take occasion to advert to what has been pointed out as “a peculiarity in the Roman coinage, that two pieces of money are seldom, if ever, found to be alike. Either the heads of many are alike, but the inscriptions vary, even if the letters are the same: or, the whole fronts of two or more are the same, but the reverses are different: or, the figures of the reverses are the same, but the inscriptions vary,” &c. Though this observation may seem to require some modification, there can be no doubt that it is to a great extent substantially correct. Of 242 Roman coins found on Leigh Down, near Bristol, which were examined by Mr. Seyer, he states (*Memoirs of Bristol*, vol. i. p. 174) that “of the whole of this number, there were only two which were not instantly discernible to be of different moulds.”

Thus, then, each of the coins above described, apart from any historical interest it may possess, has some feature peculiarly its own, which takes it out of the common category of mere ordinary coins, and invests it with an individual interest,—an interest which it is hoped will be held to lend additional sanction to the brief description which has now, for the first time, been bestowed on some of these Roman coins found at Taunton.



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II.—The Officers of the Society shall consist of a Patron and Trustees, elected for life; a President; Vice-Presidents; General and District, or Local Secretaries; and a Treasurer, elected at each Anniversary Meeting; with a Committee of twelve, six of whom shall go out annually by rotation, but may be re-elected. No person shall be elected on the Committee until he shall have been six months a Member of the Society.

III.—Anniversary General Meetings shall be held for the purpose of electing the Officers, of receiving the Report of the Committee for the past year, and of transacting all other necessary business, at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint, of which Meetings three weeks' notice shall be given to the Members.

IV.—There shall also be a General Meeting, fixed by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving Reports, reading Papers, and transacting business. All Members shall have the privilege of introducing one friend to the Anniversary and General Meetings.

V.—The Committee is empowered to call special Meetings of the Society upon receiving a requisition signed by ten Members. Three weeks' notice of such special Meetings and its object shall be given to each Member.

VI.—The affairs of the Society shall be directed by the Committee (of which the Officers of the Society will be *ex-officio* Members), which shall hold monthly Meetings for receiving Reports from the Secretaries and sub-Committees, and for transacting other necessary business; three of the Committee shall be a quorum. Members may attend the Monthly Committee Meetings after the Official business has been transacted.

VII.—The Chairman, at Meetings of the Society, shall have a casting vote in addition to his vote as a Member.

VIII.—One (at least) of the Secretaries shall attend each Meeting, and shall keep a record of its proceedings. The property of the Society shall be held in trust for the Members by twelve Trustees, who shall be chosen from the Members at any General Meeting. All Manuscripts and Communications and the other property of the Society shall be under the charge of the Secretaries.

IX.—Candidates for admission as Members shall be proposed by two Members at any of the General or Committee Meetings, and the election shall be determined by ballot at the next Committee or General Meeting; three-fourths of the Members present balloting shall elect. The Rules of the Society shall be subscribed by every person becoming a Member.

X.—Ladies shall be eligible as Members of the Society without ballot, being proposed by two Members and approved by the majority of the Meeting.

XI.—Each Member shall pay Ten Shillings and Sixpence on admission to the Society, and Ten Shillings and Sixpence as an annual subscription, which shall become due on the first of January in each year, and shall be paid in advance.

XII.—Donors of Ten Guineas or upwards shall be Members for life.

XIII.—At General Meetings of the Society the Committee may recommend persons to be ballotted for as Honorary or Corresponding Members.

XIV.—When any office shall become vacant or any new appointment shall be requisite, the Committee shall have power to fill up the same; such appointments shall remain in force only till the next General Meeting, when they shall be either confirmed or annulled.

XV.—The Treasurer shall receive all Subscriptions and Donations made to the Society, and shall pay all accounts passed by the Committee; he shall keep a book of receipts and payments which he shall produce whenever the Committee shall require it; the accounts shall be audited previously to the Anniversary Meeting by two Members of the Committee chosen for that purpose, and an abstract of them shall be read at the Meeting.

XVI.—No change shall be made in the laws of the Society except at a General or Special Meeting, at which twelve Members at least shall be present. Of the proposed change a month's notice shall be given to the Secretaries, who shall communicate the same to each Member three weeks before the Meeting.

XVII.—Papers read at Meetings of the Society shall (with the author's consent, and subject to the discretion of the Committee), be published in the *Proceedings* of the Society.

XVIII.—No religious or political discussions shall be permitted at Meetings of the Society.

XIX.—Any person contributing books or specimens to the Museum shall be at liberty to resume possession of them in the event of a dissolution of the Society. Persons shall also have liberty to deposit books or specimens for a specific time only.

XX.—In case of dissolution, the real property of the Society in Taunton shall be held by the Trustees for the advancement of Literature, Science, and Art, in the town of Taunton and the county of Somerset.

June, 1882.

*** It is requested that contributions to the Museum or Library be sent to the Curator, at Taunton Castle.*



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- 425 Terry, Geo. *Mells, Frome*
Thomas, C. J. *Drayton Lodge, Redland, Bristol*
Thompson, E. S. *Christ's College, Cambridge*
Thompson, Geo. C. 6, *Duke-street, Cardiff*
Thompson, Rev. Archer, *Milton Lodge, Wells*
- 430 Thomson, Rev. G. O. L. *The King's School, Taunton*
Thring, Rev. Godfrey, *Alford, Castle Cary*
Thring, Theodore, ,,
Tilney, G. A. *Watts House, Bishops Lydeard*
Tite, C. *Yeovil*
- 435 Todd, Lt.-Col. *Keynston Lodge, Blandford*
Tomkins, Rev. H. G. *Weston-super-Mare*
Tomkins, Rev. W. S. ,,
Trask, Charles, *Norton, Ilminster*
Trevelyan, Sir C. E., Bart., K.C.B. 8, *Grosvenor-crescent, Belgrave-square, London, S.W.*
- 440 Trevelyan Miss, *Nettlecombe Court*
Trotman, W. R. *Taunton*
Trower, Miss, *Gotten House, Taunton*
Turner, C. J. *Staplegrave*
Turner, Henry G. ,,
- 445 Turner, James, *Stoke-sub-Hamdon*
Tylor, Edw. Burnett, D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., *Linden, Wellington*

Tynte, Col. Kemeys, *Halswell, Bridgwater*
 Tynte, St. David Kemeys, *Balnageith, Torquay*
 Tyndale, J. W. Warre, *Perridge House, Shepton Mallet*

- 450 Vaughan-Lee, V. H., M.P. *Dillington House, Ilminster*
 Viney, Rev. R. *Hatch Beauchamp*

Wade, E. F. *Axbridge*
 Wadhams, Rt. Rev. E. P. *Bishop of Ogdensburg, New York, U.S.A.*

Waldron, Clement, *Llandaff, S. Wales.*

- 455 Walters, G. *Frome*
 Walton, T. Todd, *Maperton House, Wincanton*
 Ward, Rev. J. W. *Ruishton*
 Warren, J. F. H. *Langport*
 Warren, Rev. J. *Bawdrip*

- 460 Weatherly, Christopher, 39, *High-street, Wapping, London, E.*
 Weatherly, Lionel A., M.D. *Portishead*
 Welch, C. 1, *Morpeth-terrace, Victoria-street, Westminster*
 Welsh, W. I. *Wells*
 Welman, C. N. *Norton Manor*

- 565 Welman, C. C.
 Westlake, W. H. *Taunton*
 White, C. F. 42, *Windsor-road, Ealing, London, W.*
 White, H. C. *Upland Villa, Wembdon, Bridgwater*
 Whitfield, Rev. E. *Ilminster*

- 470 Williams, Rev. Wadham Pigott, *Bishops Hull*
 Williamson-Bull, Rev. Thos. *Paulton*
 Wilson, Rev. J. *Huntspill*
 Winter, J. A. *Maunsell House, Taunton*
 Winterbotham, W. L., M.B. *Bridgwater*

- 475 Winwood, Rev. H. H. 11, *Cavendish-crescent, Bath*
 Winwood, T. H. R. *Wellisford Manor, Wellington*
 Wood, Rev. J. 10, *Burlington-street, Bath*
 Wood, Alexander, *The Laurels, Horsham, Sussex*
 Woodforde, Rev. A. J. *Ansford, Castle Cary*
 480 Woodforde, F. H., M.D. " "
 Woodley, W. A. *Fairview, Ashgrove-road, Bristol*
 Wotton, E. *Taunton*

Yatman, Rev. J. A. *Winscombe, Weston-super-Mare*

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